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FALIN CRITICIZES U.S. STAND ON NUCLEAR, CW CURBS

PM011328 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Sep 85 Morning Edition pp 4-5

[Valentin Falin "Political Observer's Opinion": "Binary Deeds"]

[Text] When something has been done -- I mean something good -- somehow you tend to forget how much strenuous effort sometimes goes into achieving success. A classic example of this is the 1968 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. For more than 2 decades the United States did all it could to sabotage the elaboration of any norms in the nuclear sphere. A U.S. National Security Council Memorandum (NSC-30) drawn up in 1949 emphasized: "Any attempts now or in the future... to ban or establish rules governing the use of the atom bomb could have disastrous consequences." For -- let us refer to the State Department's opinion of NSC-30 -- in the event of a conflict the "national military establishment" does not want any alternative other than the use of nuclear weapons, even when the United States starts a war. As B. Baruch declared in a narrow circle, as long as strength is on the American side, it will always be right.

But now, 30-40 years later, some of Washington's secrets have come to light. At that time, in the "open society," only selected people were supposed to know about them. No, not people selected by voting in elections, but the especially trusted persons from whom the military-industrial complex created its state within a state. The rest were regaled with a potion infused from demagoguery and falsifications.

Reference to the "impossibility of monitoring" the fulfillment of any international accords in the nuclear sphere were the indispensable "argument" against them. Under the flag of "monitoring" the United States blocked for more than 10 years the adoption of practical decisions against the proliferation of nuclear weapons when the question of nonproliferation became an object of discussion at the United Nations. The demands for the nonproliferation system's 100 percent impenetrability and similar expressions of "concern" for security without dirty tricks appeared, you will agree, more seemly then the truth about Washington's attempts to create a NATO "multilateral nuclear force" and to escalate the nuclear arms race to extreme degrees.

Being forced to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1968, the United States turned from being Saul to being Paul. Since that moment, it was claimed it was always concerned only with saving mankind from nuclear threats. It claims credit for the fact that the number of nuclear powers has not increased in 15 years, officially, at least, and let everything that happened prior to that be consigned to oblivion.

Perhaps it is not worth disputing states' rights to rectify their own errors. In the final analysis, the essence is more important than the form that repentance takes. On the condition, however, that the cycle -- if you don't sin, you won't confess; if you don't confess, you won't be saved -- does not become some American tradition or privilege, or a U.S. right to a negative experiment whose consequences all mankind must atone for. This is not theory, not scholasticism, not an abstraction, but real life.

Monitoring, as it turned out, was not an insuperable obstacle for the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons. More accurately, it ceased to be one when, for a number of reasons, Washington's desire to turn it into a fetish in that specific instance deminished. But international security is not confirmed to nuclear arms alone. There is also the problem of the nonproliferation of other means of mass destruction, above all chemical means. How do things stand with them?

Because of the supposedly "imperfect" nature of the monitoring envisaged in the almost ready American-Soviet joint document on the prohibition of chemical toxins and their production, storage, and use, the Reagan administration broke off the talks which had been proceeding, on the whole, productively for a number of years and demanded in an ultimatum-like way: Either the USSR allows itself to be inspected by some monitoring organ empowered to look into any corner of any Soviet enterprise, laboratory, or institute, not to mention regions where troops are stationed and arms stored, or don't expect any agreement. In order to make the unacceptable provocation they even abandoned the formal principle of reciprocity. In the United States itself only projects belonging to the state, that is, less than one-fifth of everything relating to the chemical industry, would be liable to inspection.

The Americans used a similar method in 1946 to wreck the proposals to outlaw nuclear weapons. General Groves, one of the coauthors of the notorious "Baruch plan," declared: "We have given Russia the chance to accept or reject. This is more important than thoughts about whether or not the Russians will accept the very idea." It was immaterial whether they accepted or rejected it, for in either case the United States would retain "decisive advantages." Almost 4 decades have elapsed since that gloomy time and Washington is once again trying to palm off a rotten commodity on the international community, as though nothing had happened. Why? In order to secure freedom of action now in the chemical arms race and in updating its arsenals to the "highest technical standard."

It cannot be ruled out that, having totally sated itself, as was the case with nuclear weapons, and added millions of "supermodern" binary bombs and shells to the millions of existing chemical bombs and shells, the United States will knock something off its absurd requests concerning "monitoring." What could be simpler than to play the holy fool and say they wanted the best deal. It has not worked. They will have to be satisfied with half-measures. Given such a distribution, the wolves will be sated -- without a doubt. It is more complex for the sheep.

The number of countries which have admitted to being nuclear countries has not changed since 1968. Chemical weapons are a different matter. At least 13-15 states now possess chemical weapons. Consequently, their numbers have trebled in 20 years, and the opinion is being voiced that in the absence of effective regulations their numbers will double again in the next decade.

An extremely dangerous symptom lies behind these statistics. The legal and moral force of the 1925 Geneva protocol on the nonuse of toxins in war -- one of the most long-standing and effective international agreements -- is being eroded. Practically without any monitoring the protocol made a considerable contribution to the fact that the extensive use of toxins was avoided in World War II. Chemical ammunition was used by the Japanese for local operations in China. Instances of the use of poisons and toxins by Nazi Germany were recorded on Soviet territory. The most brutal and flagrant violation of the protocol's provisions was the Hitlerites' systematic use of chemicals for the mass annihilation of prisoners of war and death camp inmates.

In the sixties and seventies the United States waged large-scale chemical warfare against people and their environment in Indochina, in the course of which approximately the same amount of chemicals was dropped over Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos as was used (by weight) on the fronts in World War I; with no less grave consequences. The experience of the Vietnam War was evidently to the linking of some people in Washington. Probably the opinion that chemical weapons are not so dangerous if used a long way from the United States gained the upper hand there. In short, the United States did not ratify the Geneva protocol for half a century. It acknowledged its prohibitions as binding on itself only after it resolved to end the Vietnam adventure. But less than 5 years later those pledges again became too restrictive for the Americans.

They set about hurriedly creating a veil out of "yellow rain" and fairy tales about U.S. "laggardness" and "chemical vulnerability" in order to divert attention from the bustle in their hellish kitchen.

What the blather about "vulnerability" is worth is shown, for example, by the words of American General B. Rogers, commander in chief, NATO Armed Forces, Europe. The general declared recently that, if he were commander of the Warsaw Pact organization, he would order a couple of chemical shells or so to be dispatched against the location of the Atlantic troops and the combat capability of the latter would immediately fall by half. A soldier with such a level of thinking has no chance of reaching even the rank of private first class in the socialist countries' armies. And yet, Rogers is not joking. He campaigns more loudly than the rest and in earnest for a chemical arms race and for preparations for a real chemical war.

What does it mean when a country of such dimensions and technical potential as the United States embarks on chemical rearmament, propagandizes some merits supposedly peculiar to toxins, and makes the use of chemical weapons a part of its mili ary doctrines? What follows from this if Washington wrecks the conclusion of a new comprehensive and stricter agreement on the prohibition of chemical weapons of all kinds and defames the existing regulations as worthless? It is said that there is no evil without good. There is. Whichever way you look at it, mass destruction weapons are an evil without any reservations -- nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, and any others.

The nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, which has been arrived at after so many hardships, has resolved only part of the problem and, probably, not the most difficult part. It has not removed, but emphasized the urgent need to resolve its remaining parts. All parts without a remainder. So that no one is tempted under any circumstances to have either ruinous nuclear weapons or chemical weapons which, by reason of their comparative accessibility and cheapness, THE WASHINGTON POST called the "nuclear bomb of poverty." Not to mention thinking of using them. Solutions, however, will not come of their own accord. Neither good intentions nor increasingly sophisticated weapons systems will pave the way for them. What is needed is constructive deeds purged of national or social egoism and imbued with responsibility for preserving for mankind its common boon -- peace.

At the moment the Reagan administration is trying to neutralize the criticism which is being heaped on it from all sides, organizing a propaganda campaign under the slogan "democracy on the march." If you gently scrape away the cover of this "democracy" the shine disappears; the shine put on U.S. imperialism, its hegemonist doctrines hostile to people, and programs to adapt all continents and seas for wars on earth and in space. This celebrated "democracy" has been bungled by the same cold hands and according to the same formulas as the binary tools of murder promised to U.S. militarism. The difference is that the first victims on the "democratic march" are to be awareness and human souls.

REVIEW OF 40TH UNGA DISCUSSION, REMARKS

LD021219 Moscow TASS in English 0915 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] New York, October 2 TASS -- TASS correspondents Vyacheslav Chernyshov and Gennadiy Shishkin report:

Participants in the general political discussion which is under way at the 40th session of the U.N. General Assembly point out that the duty of all the members of the world community is to display political realism and responsibility for the destinies of the world. The states which sabotage disarmament efforts and seek to kindle local conflicts are brought under bitter criticism.

Peter Varkonyi, minister of foreign affairs of Hungary, expressed high appreciation of the Soviet initiative of international cooperation in peaceful space exploration in conditions of its non-militarization. He stressed that this and other foreign policy initiatives of the USSR, including the unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions, created a favourable climate for working out agreements on the prevention of the militarization of space and the discontinuation of the arms race on earth.

Syria strongly denounces the attempts of imperialist forces aimed at the militarization of space, the minister of foreign affairs of Syria Faruq al-Shar' said. He supported the efforts aimed at the discontinuation of the nuclear weapons tests, the freezing, limitation and destruction of nuclear arsenals. The head of the Syrian delegation denounced the "sinister alliance" between imperialism and the Israeli and South African regimes. He attacked all the attempts to find separate and partial solutions to the problem, for example, the Camp David and Amman agreements which are tantamount to the plan of the liquidation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Universal and durable peace can be achieved in the Middle East only on the basis of Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab lands and the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, he stressed.

An international conference with the participation of all the parties concerned is a mechanism for it. Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs of Algeria, described the international conference on this issue with full participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the only viable way to the solution of the Middle East problem.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guyana Rashleigh Jackson denounced U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Central American and Caribbean countries. He stressed that the problems existing in the region should be settled by means of talks and not through the use of the force of arms.

CONFERENCE OF NONALIGNED DELEGATIONS HELD

LD021759 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] New York, October 2 TASS -- An annual conference of ministers and heads of delegations of non-aligned countries at the 40th session of the U.N. General Assembly has been held at the U.N. headquarters. Questions analyzed at the conference include the consolidation of peace and international security, the removal of the threat of a nuclear war, the termination of the arms race, the protection of the right of nations to independent development and socio-economic progress.

Bali Ram Bhagat, minister of foreign affairs of India who opened the conference, denounced the "star wars" doctrine put forward by Washington which is aimed at the militarization of space. The continuous arms buildup, especially in the sphere of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons, has reached the unprecedented level which is dangerous to peace, he said.

The time has come when it is necessary to ensure international security through universal and complete disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament, under the effective international control.

Participants in the conference devoted much attention to the regional problems -- the political settlement of the Central American conflict, the end to the Iranian-Iraqi war, the granting of independence to Namibia and the elimination of apartheid in South Africa, as well as the urgent settlement of the Middle East conflict.

A communique adopted by the conference reaffirmed the political analysis of the international situation made at the conference of ministers of foreign affairs of non-aligned countries held in Luanda on September 4 through 8, this year. Participants in the conference voiced the allegiance of the Non-aligned Movement to the U.N. actions aimed at the consolidation of universal peace and security and at the solution of topical problems facing mankind.

CORRESPONDENT DESCRIBES SHEVARDNADZE U.S. MEETINGS

PM021053 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Oct 85 First Edition p 5

[A. Lyutyy report: "Before the Main Meeting"]

[Text] Washington -- This cannot be called an ordinary day in America's life. It is one of those days which will be remembered for a long time. And although the capricious Atlantic presented the country with the latest hurricane, with the pretty girl's name Gloria, the bad weather was no hindrance to the American capital's active political life. On 27 September Washington was the scene of a series of meetings of leaders of the American Administration with E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister.

... It was 1000 hours. The official beginning of E.A. Shevardnadze's talks with President R. Reagan in the White House. There was not an inch of space in the press room of the presidential residence. The flower of American and foreign journalists accredited to Washington was assembled here.

At 1100 hours they started allowing reporters into the Oval Office for a so-called "photo-opportunity" (the chance to film or photograph the participants in the talks). They were allowed in in small groups, so-called "waves." Mary (Massellini), an employee of the State Department's protocol office, included us, the Soviet correspondents, in the third group. Cameras flashed in the spacious, light Oval Office. Lenses were focused on E.A. Shevardnadze and President Reagan, who were sitting by the fireplace. The "writing" correspondents listened to their conversation. They were talking about the weather, about the hurricane which is troubling the U.S. east coast. Our minister expressed the hope that during the meeting between CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev and President Reagan scheduled for November, the weather in Geneva will be good.

A few more minutes, and White House representative Mark Weinberg politely but firmly asked the press to leave the Oval Office. The business talk was beginning.

...It was 1530 hours. On the thirteenth story of the national press house, the Soviet side was holding a press conference. V.B. Lomeyko, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry press section, reported that the meeting with the President was certainly important and mutually useful. The president was handed a message from CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev, which sets forth concrete considerations and proposals in connection with the November summit meeting in Geneva.

Secretary of State Shultz held a press conference for the American side. He described the talk as "very, very frank."

...It was 1600 hours. The eighth story of the State Department, a spacious hall with a bust and protrait of Benjamin Franklin, one of the pioneers of American diplomacy. The meeting between our foreign minister and the secretary of state was beginning. At the center of discussion were questions of the preparation for the Geneva meeting, bilateral relations, and a whole series of regional problems.

...The afternoon was unusually warm, sunny, and dry. As if it had not been raining all morning. Returning from the TASS office, I switched on the car radio. A commentator saw the change in the weather as symbolic: The Soviet delegation brought the sum to Washington.

TASHKENT SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

LD021348 Moscow TASS in English 0804 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Tashkent, October 2 TASS -- The problem of the rational utilisation of the water resources is being dealt with at an international seminar which opened in Tashkent, the capital of Soviet Uzbekistan (Central Asia) today within the framework of the UNEP-UNESCO project "Geology and the Environment": The seminar is being attended by representatives of Britain, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the People's Republic of China, the Netherlands, the Soviet Union, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Sweden.

We are to consider that impact of water handling measures on the hydro-geological and engineering geological conditions of the lithosphere, said Lev Sokolov (USSR), director of the project. Such is one of the directions of a long-term international programme which is aimed, in particular, at rationally utilising one of the most valuable treasures of mankind -- fresh water. We have chosen the capital of Soviet Uzbekistan as a venue for the seminar because millions of hectares of desert land have been reclaimed in this Central Asian republic for use as plantations and orchards, and because one of the world's biggest land reclamation and irrigation systems is functioning here. So the exchange of experience will be graphic.

The programme of the seminar includes reports, discussions, and a tour of the hydro-geological and water-handling facilities of Uzbekistan.

U.S. SUPPORTS 'UNCONCEALED TERRORISM' BY ISRAEL

LD021235 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0637 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Washington, 2 Oct (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnev reports:

The United States has again appeared before the whole world as patrons and abettors of unconcealed terrorism. The White House has not only refused to condemn the bandit attack by the Israeli Air Force on the PLO headquarters in Tunis, it has cynically proclaimed this terrorist sortie, in which innocent people were the victims, "a legitimate act of self-defense." Even at the admission of journalists at the White House, this is the first time the United States has attempted so openly to justify a piratical raid by the Israeli aggressors on a sovereign state.

As might be expected, the White House has in every possible way denied that Washington knew in advance of the crime that was being prepared. In this connection the press is recalling that this kind of denial was also made by the administration during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, which -- as emerged later -- was carried out with the direct blessing of the United States.

It is clear from the pronouncements of White House spokesmen that, from the viewpoint of the Reagan administration, Israel "is absolutely in the right" to resort to such measures of "self-defense" in the future. The fact is that, to judge by statements made in the White House, the administration is reserving the very same "right" for the United States, and this "right" -- in the words of a personal spokesman for the President -- "extends not only to the Near East, but also to other regions of the world" attracts attention.

REAGAN TO HOST MEETING FOR WESTERN LEADERS; FRANCE DECLINES

LD021433 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Within the framework of preparations for the forthcoming Soviet-American summit meeting, the U.S. Administration plans to set up a Western unified propagandistic front in an attempt to neutralize Soviet peace initiatives. With this aim in mind, President Reagan has invited the leaders of Great Britain, Italy, Canada, the FRG, France, and Japan to meet him in New York on 24 October in order to discuss military, economic, and political issues in light of the forthcoming Soviet-American meeting.

A statement from the French presidential office has been distributed in Paris. It says Mitterrand has refused Reagan's invitation.

U.S. TO SELL TECHNOLOGY OR ARMAMENTS TO PRC

LD030833 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 2 Oct 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announced-read TASS report]

[Text] The United States has declared its readiness to sell the PRC the technology to produce armaments. According to a Pentagon statement, this will be the first government deal of its type between the two countries. The total value of the sale has been assessed at $98 million. It is also reported that instead of technology, China may procure U.S. armaments for the same amount. According to a spokesman of the U.S. war department, the sale of technology for arms production to China does not signify any change in the military balance in the region.

This is being seen by observers as an indication that the United States will continue to give military aid to Taiwan.

Arms Export Policy

LD021315 Moscow TASS in English 1253 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] New York, October 2 TASS -- The Reagan administration continues to export armaments in ever greater volumes, delivering it, in the first place, to reactionary terroristic regimes. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the U.S. is firmly in the lead on this death-carrying business. It increases its arms deliveries abroad every year. In 1966 the U.S. sold abroad 1.8 billion dollars worth of weapons, while the figure for 1984 exceeded 14.5 billion dollars. In the past 35 years the U.S. has exported 164 billion dollars worth of armaments. According to the head of the planning department of the Defense Security Agency M. Ryan, the pace of arms exports will steadily grow, and in the coming year arms deliveries abroad will reach 18 billion dollars.

However, these statistics do not fully reflect the true situation in the sphere of the U.S. arms trade, since they do not take into account a considerable part of arms deliveries to the NATO allies of the U.S., to Israel, Japan and some other countries which are recorded in "special" paragraphs.

U.S. SUPPORT OF UN, PROCLAMATION EXAMINED

LD021311 Moscow TASS in English 1158 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Washington, October 2 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyutyy reports: President Reagan has proclaimed October 24 of the current year to be the United Nations Day in the U.S.

A special proclamation of the President published by the White House on this occasion points out that the U.N. Charter reflected "the fervent hope that humanity might experience peace and international cooperation," that U.N. member states might "cooperate in dealing with the economic, social, humanitarian and technical problems that afflict our planet."

At the same time, the President said that the U.N. activities in the past 40 years had had their "shortcomings," "unfulfilled promises" and "failures" that "prevented the U.N. from realizing its full potential."

The President made no mention of the fact that it is Washington that had conducted a purposeful and active campaign against the ideals of the U.N. and had tried to undermine its work throughout the whole of 40 years of the existence of that organization. It is no other than Washington which, contrary to the peaceful principles of the U.N. Charter, whipped up the arms race to unprecedented proportions in an attempt to achieve world domination. It is Washington that repeatedly trampled underfoot the principle of a peaceful settlement of international disputes, staged aggressions and interventions against sovereign states waging "undeclared wars" against the countries whose policy did not suit the U.S. It is Washington that seeks to build relations with other countries not on the principles of equality and mutually advantageous cooperation, but on the basis of glaring diktat and blackmail.

No wonder that this policy pursued by Washington arouses indignation in the world, including the U.N. However, the administration responds to the justified criticism directed at its policy with gross attacks on the U.N. itself and its members, with the utilization of the financial methods of pressure against the world community.

The White House curtails U.S. financial contributions to specialized U.N. bodies which, according to the President himself, played a constructive part in "improving human condition" on the planet. Trying to torpedo the work of UNESCO, the U.S. ostentatiously withdrew from that organization.

"We look to all member states to support the sound priniples upon which the U.N. was founded", President Reagan's proclamation says. This appeal should be directed, in the first place, to the U.S. itself.

VOA TO EXPAND OPERATIONS SUPPORTING U.S. POLICY

LD021738 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Vladimir Beloshapko station commentary]

[Text] The United States is implementing a program for the expansion of the network of relays for the Voice of America radio stations. Voice of America is already, in essence, the main instrument in the psychological war which Washington is waging on a large scale against the countries of the socialist community and against states that have been liberated, are carrying out progressive socioeconomic changes, and are pursuing a course of international affairs independent of the United States.

Day after day torrents of disinformation and slander are thrust upon the inhabitants of these countries. However, to judge by all appearances, the scale of the ideological subversion does not suit the present administration. The evident drop in trust in the credibility of the information that Voice of America spreads throughout the world is arousing anxiety in Washington.

It seems that it was precisely these circumstances that dictated the adoption of the program to increase the number of relays. In recent months these have appeared in Morocco and Thailand; a branch of Voice of America is being founded in Israel especially for broadcasting to the socialist countries. Talks are underway on opening up at anti-Sandinist radio station in Costa Rica and near the Isle of Freedom an anti-Cuban radio center has been founded. Finally, it happens to be today that the so-called Radio Free Afghanistan starts to operate. It has been created in the image of the subversive radio stations Free Europe and Liberty, which are in effect branches of the CIA. It is no wonder that the anti-Afghan station will be used not only for moral support to the counterrevolutionary groups, but also for conveying instructions and coordinates for dushman attacks.

Washington justifies this ideological expansion by referring to the need for some kind of free exchange of information, but in fact we are talking about attempts by Washington to legitimize for itself the right to interfere freely in the internal affairs of sovereign states, to foist upon them systems favorable to the United States and to discredit their foreign policy.

TOLKUNOV MEETS WITH U.S. CONGRESSMEN

PM301425 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] On 27 September L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union, met with a delegation of U.S. congressmen led by M. Udall, chairman of the House of Representatives Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. A conversation was held which broached certain questions of Soviet-American relations and interparliamentary contacts. The guests shared their impressions of their tour of West Siberia.

PONOMAREV SPEAKS AT INTERNATIONAL MEETING

OW011050 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 30 Sep 85

[From the "Friendship and Good-neighborliness" program; talk by (Aleksandr Tolomakov), director of the Secretariat of the USSR-Japan Society, on an international meeting held in Moscow 24-25 September with representatives of various foreign organizations engaged in promoting friendship with the USSR and Soviet citizens, marking the 60th anniversary of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries -- recorded in Russian fading into Japanese translation]

[Excerpts] The discussions at the meeting centered on various urgent questions, including a peace campaign, promoting friendship with peoples of various countries, the danger of wars, and the movement for opposing the militarization of the space. Present at the meeting from the USSR were over 100 leading members and activists of Soviet national and local organizations engaged in the promotion of friendship with various foreign countries and about 200 representatives from 83 countries.

At the meeting, Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee's Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee's Secretariat, made an important speech. In his speech, Ponomarev stressed the campaign for promoting friendship with various countries had reached a very large scale in the USSR and it had become an important part in the struggle against the danger of wars staged by peace-loving forces in the world.

Among those delegations attending the meeting, the Japanese delegation was the most representative one. Present at the meeting from Japan were leading members and activities of the Japan-USSR Friendship Association, the Japan-Soviet Interchange Association, the Dietmen's League for Japanese-Soviet Friendship, the Japanese Association for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, the Liaison Council of Japan-USSR Cultural Halls in Hokaido, and other organizations. After attending official activities of the international meeting, the Japanese delegation members had friendly talks with Soviet political and social activists. The delegation also held talks with Guzhenko, minister of the Maritime Fleet and chairman of the USSR-Japan Society; Kosolapov, chairman of the Soviet-Japanese Parliamentarians' League and chief editor of KOMMUNIST; Shcherbakov, minister of education; Yelyutin, minister of higher and secondary specialized education; and Kudryavtsev, deputy minister of fish industry.

MARCHUK RECEIVES JAPANESE BUSINESSMAN

PM021459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Oct 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meetings, Talks"]

[Text] On 3 September G. I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, received K. Haruna, president of the Japanese Marubeni Corporation. During their talk there was a discussion of the possibilities of further mutually advantagous cooperation.

REASONS FOR TROOP PRESENCE IN DRA REITERATED

LD012143 Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 1 Oct 85

[Yevgeniy Kiselev commentary]

[Text] We follow with a talk on Soviet assistance to Afghanistan in rebuffing aggression from the outside. The Western mass media spread the most fantastic inventions about the role played in the country by the limited contingents of Soviet troops. What they fail to do is to give a truthful and objective picture of what's really going on. Here's what Yevgeniy Kiselev, a writer on foreign affairs, says about it in the NEW TIMES weekly:

First, a flashback on how the limited contingent of Soviet troops was introduced in Afghanistan. This is important because the American press is inclined to mix the cause and the effect. It claims that it was the introduction of the Soviet troops that created the so-called Afghan problem. The truth is, however, that the undeclared war against Afghanistan began long before the Soviet contingent entered the country. Already, soon after the democratic revolution of 27 April 1978, the counterrevolutionary groups began fighting the new government with arms in hand, and they relied first of all on American aid. By the end of 1979 interference reached such proportions that the very independence of the country was threatened. The government of the republic asked the Soviet Union to give it military aid. Only then, in response to that request, the Soviet Union sent a limited contingent of its troops to Afghanistan. Giving such assistance is in line with the Soviet-Afghan treaty of 1978, and also corresponds to the UN Charter. Article 51 of the charter recognizes the right of all countries to collective self-defense.

If it were not for Soviet military aid, the reactionaries, backed by outside imperialist forces, could have strangled the revolution and prevented the Afghan people from deciding their future themselves. THE WASHINGTON POST once admitted that if the counter-revolution won there would be a theoretic dictatorship in the country.

The question everyone is interested in of course is when will the Soviet troops be withdrawn from the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan? The Soviet Union has stated repeatedly about its readiness to do that. But first the cause should be removed that prompted the introduction of the Soviet troops. First of all it's necessary to stop foreign armed interference in the affairs of the republic. There should also be reliable guarantees that such interference would not be resumed. Both the Soviet Union and Afghanistan are for such a political solution of the problem.

SOVIET-AFGHAN COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED

PM271533 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English 22 Sep 85 p 4

[Interview with Ziya Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and M.S. Mangal, deputy chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, by Vladimir Generalov: "Two Comments on the Protocol" -- date and place not given]

[Text] A regular session of the Soviet-Afghan Inter-Governmental Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation took place in Moscow to analyze the results of cooperation and outline new objectives for cooperation between the two countries, all of which are detailed in the protocol signed by the leaders of the two delegations: Ziya Nuriyev, vice-chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Mohammad Sarwar Mangal, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Planning Committee of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Below are their comments on the protocol they signed:

Ziya Nuriyev: The protocol has fixed an agreement between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan on a wide range of issues concerning economic and technical cooperation. We shall continue to render assistance to the neighbouring country to develop such important industries as power engineering, the fuel industry, construction, transport, agriculture, and irrigation. Special mention should be made of our assistance to Afghanistan in prospecting and mining its mineral resources, as well as training national personnel.

Mohammad Sarwar Mangal: The chief result of our work is a confirmation of our mutual desire to develop and expand bilateral economic relations. The protocol just signed outlines concrete measures to complete construction and put into operation projects now in progress. It also specifies the scope of joint work on new projects. The Soviet Union has confirmed its readiness to continue to render assistance to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in carrying out major economic reforms launched since the April Revolution of 1978.

"Friendship projects" is the popular name for everything the Soviet Union has helped build in our country. These projects play the main role in Afghanistan's economy, accounting for over 7 per cent of the state sector output. They fully meet the local demand for nitrogen fertilizers, natural gas, and prefabricated construction. Power stations built with the USSR's assistance provide more than 55 per cent of all electricity generated in Afghanistan.

RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN ESCALATES INTERFERENCE

LD021702 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0710 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Report by TASS correspondent Sergey Sosnovskiy]

[Text] Bonn, 2 Oct (TASS) -- U.S. imperialistic circles, above all the CIA espionage department, with the support of West German "confederates," have undertaken the latest step in escalating their crude interference in the DRA's internal affairs; intensifying the psychological war against the people and Government of the DRA. The subversive radio station "Free Afghanistan" has started work in Munich. It was set up on direct instructions from Washington, and is being funded by the CIA. It is highly significant that news of the "birth" of this instrument in the U.S. undeclared war against Afghanistan was given by the directorate of the subversive radio centers "Liberty" and "Free Europe", organizations entrenched in Munich and which have long been specializing in ideological sabotage against socialist countries, disgorging daily torrents of lies and slander. It is they who have become the "godfathers" of the anti-Afghan radio station.

The new, slandering radio voice intends to broadcast directly in Dari from Munich. "Specialists" from the counterrevolutionary emigrant rabble have been brought in to fabricate these broadcasts and transmit them on the short wave frequency.

One cannot also ignore the fact that the West German authorities, as in the case of the subversive CIA radio centers "Liberty" and "Free Europe", readily agreed to the siting of yet another of the "cold war" brood on their territory. Official Bonn, to please Washington, is allowing itself to become more and more deeply involved in the undeclared war being conducted by imperialist forces against the people and the legal government of Afghanistan.

PRC BORDER 'PROVOCATIONS' AGAINST SRV CONTINUE

PM011106 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Sep 85 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "At the Vietnamese-Chinese Border"]

[Text] Hanoi, 27 Sep -- The Chinese side continues to commit dangerous armed provocations against the SRV, VNA reports.

During the period 14 through 20 September, the report says, Chinese artillery fired more than 20,000 shells on Ha Tuyen Province. Areas 18 kilometers from the border also came under shelling. Numerous groups of Chinese soldiers invaded Vietnamese territory under artillery cover.

The Chinese side launched floating mines into rivers running through the territory of the Vietnamese Provinces of Hanoi, Thai Binh, Hai Hung, and Ha Nam Nimh, resulting in casualties among Vietnamese civilians.

On 23 September Chinese artillery fired more than 20,000 shells on the communes of (Tkhankhyui) and (Pakhan) in Ha Tuyen Province while Chinese infantry of around battalion strength attacked high ground on the territory of the commune of (Tkhankhyui). Vietnamese border guards and self-defense forces, VNA notes, reliably defended their lines and put at least 170 border violators out of action.

THAILAND COMMITS 'FRESH PROVOCATIONS' AGAINST CAMBODIAN

LD022258 Moscow TASS in English 1905 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Phnom Penh October 2 TASS -- The Thai military has committed fresh provocations against the People's Republic of Kampuchea, SPK news agency has reported.

During one week between September 20 and 26, Thai aircraft repeatedly intruded into the country's airspace, naval vessels violated its sea borders and Thai artillery carried out 32 bombardments of the republic's border areas.

Backed by Thai aircraft and artillery, armed units of Khmer reactionaries, based on Thai territory, tried to cross the border into Kampuchea to conduct sabotage and subversive activity. Kampuchean frontier-guards and Vietnamese volunteers repulsed the attacks.

The support for remnants of armed formations of the sanguinary Pol Pot clique by Thailand's ruling circles and other forces of international reaction is the main cause of the continued existence of the gangs and the preservation of tension on the Thai-Kampuchean border, Spk stresses. Being unwilling to put up with the growth and consolidation of the new Kampuchea, these forces are doing their utmost to hinder a true dialogue which could resolve the problems of peace and stability in South East Asia, including the problem around Kampuchea. The readiness of the countries of Indochina for such talks with the ASEAN states was expressed in the statement by the recent conference of the foreign ministers of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea.

The stabilization of the situation in Kampuchea is irreversible, but the People's Republic of Kampuchea seeks to speed up the process through achieving national reconciliation with Khmer groupings and individuals of various political persuasions abroad. At the same time, it rules out any participation in the contacts of the Pol Pot grouping which is guilty of the annihilation of three million Kampucheans and continues to commit crimes against the people, the news agency points out.

NEW ZEALAND'S WILSON SPEAKS AT ANTINUCLEAR CONFERENCE

LD012319 Moscow TASS in English 2111 GMT 1 Oct 85

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Kuchko]

[Text] Tokyo, October 1 TASS -- An international women's anti-nuclear conference which opened here is to discuss important matters related to the movement for the termination of the nuclear arms race and for disarmament, for the establishment of nuclear-free zones in different regions of the world. The forum sponsored by the socialist Party of Japan is attended by politicians and anti-nuclear movement activists from Japan, Australia, Greece, New Zealand, Sweden and some other countries.

Efforts to avert the threat of nuclear war and prevent outer space militarization are the vital task today, said Masashi Ishibashi, chairman of the Central Executive Commission of the Japan Socialist party. The international public, he stressed, eagerly expects that the forthcoming Soviet-American summit meeting will become an important step forward in lessening international tensions and reducing nuclear arms.

Margaret Wilson, chairman of the ruling Labor Party of New Zealand, stressed the growing role of women in the anti-nuclear movement. She spoke about the public support in her country for the government's course toward setting up a nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific and the decision to bar U.S. nuclear-armed ships from the ports of New Zealand.

KULIKOV ATTENDS HUNGARIAN ATTACHE'S RECEPTION

PM011025 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Sep second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Reception at Hungarian Embassy"]

[Text] A reception marking Hungarian Armed Forces day was held on 27 September by Major General L. Varga, military and air attache at the Hungarian embassy in the Soviet Union.

The reception was attended by the following: Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces; Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; other generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed forces; and veterans of the Great Patriotic War who took part in the liberation of Hungary from fascism.

Military, naval, and air attaches from a number of foreign states' embassies in the USSR were among the guests.

S. Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR, was present.

REPORTAGE ON NIKONOV VISIT TO HUNGARY

Meeting With Kadar

PM301343 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Delegation Visit"]

[Text] Budapest, 27 Sep -- J. Kadar, general secretary of the MSZMP, has received V.P. Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Agroindustrial Complex Commission of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities, who heads a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation currently on a visit here.

During their conversation the great importance for the further strengthening of relations of fraternal friendship and all-around cooperation between the Soviet Union and Hungary of the 25 September Moscow meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and J. Kadar was emphasized.

J. Kadar highly praised the foreign policy activity of the CPSU and the Soviet state aimed at curbing the arms race, preventing war, and strengthening peace and international security. In this context he noted the significance of the USSR's recent peace initiatives, which include the introduction of a moratorium on all nuclear explosions and the proposal submitted at the United Nations for international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space in conditions of its nonmilitarization.

The importance of strengthening the unity and cohesion of the socialist communist states in every way and ensuring that they step up cooperation in the cause of the struggle to eliminate the threat of war and improve the international climate was emphasized.

The meeting was attended by I. Sarlos, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and president of the National Assembly. B.I. Stukalin, USSR ambassador to Hungary, was also present.

The Soviet delegation had a conversation with J. Vancsa, Hungarian minister of agriculture and food, in the course of which questions of the further deepening of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation in raising agricultural production efficiency were discussed.

In connection with the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's visit to Hungary, the USSR embassy in Budapest gave a reception which was attended by F. Havasi and I. Sarlos, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the MSZMP Central Committee; I. Horvath, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee; and other party and state leaders and deputies of the Hungarian National Assembly.

Visits Cooperative, Departs

PM011053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS reports under the general heading "Visit Over"]

[Text] Budapest, 28 Sep -- The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by V.P. Nikonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Agroindustrial Complex Commission and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which is visiting Hungary, visited Kecskemet City, administrative center of the Bacs-Kiskun region, 27 September.

The guests had a warm meeting with leaders of the city and the region and representatives of the party-economic aktiv. P. Romany, first secretary of the region's party committee, described the region's development, the work of local organs of people's power, and working people's participation in implementing the decisions of the 13th MSZMP Congress. The delegation viewed a poultry processing enterprise.

In the afternoon the members of the Soviet delegation visited the Kecskemet agricultural cooperative named for Hungarian-Soviet friendship. The Hungarian rural workers warmly greeted the USSR guests. V.P. Nikonov addressed a rally held at the cooperative. The results of the recent meeting in Moscow between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and J. Kadar, general secretary of the MSZMP, and the accords reached there, he noted, provide vivid new evidence of the full unity of views between the CPSU and the MSZMP on all contemporary issues and of the close, indestructible alliance between our countries and peoples.

During the visit the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation had an opportunity to see for itself that in the 40 years since the country's liberation from fascism, the Hungarian people, led by the MSZMP -- their tried and tested vanguard -- have achieved impressive successes in all spheres of social life. Great interest is shown in the USSR in the experience accumulated by Hungary in the agrarian sector of the national economy, and we see good prospects for the further development of bilateral cooperation in this sphere.

Soviet Communists and all our people are living and working on the threshold of the 27th CPSU Congress. The report and election campaign is gathering momentum within the party. The April (1985) Central Committee Plenum and the June conference at the CPSU Central Committee put forward a course aimed at accelerating the country's socioeconomic development on the basis of scientific and technical progress, at comprehensively intensifying and increasing the efficiency of production, and further strengthening discipline and organization. This party course has received the Soviet people's full approval.

The pooling of efforts and participation in the collective organs of the socialist community -- the Warsaw Pact and CEMA -- strengthen our positions in the world and promote the successful implementation of the plans for socialist and communist building.

Soviet-Hungarian relations are developing successfully and are characterized by complete mutual understanding and profound trust, sincere interest in each other's successes, and mutual support, V.P. Nikonov noted in conclusion. It may be said with confidence that our cooperation has a reliable basis and good prospects.

On the same day the Soviet guests familiarized themselves with the organization of production at the "light of the East" agricultural cooperative in Palmonostora. The delegation was accompanied on its travels by I. Sarlos, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and president of the Hungarian National Assembly.

Budapest, 28 Sep — The USSR Supreme soviet delegation headed by V.P. Nikonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Agroindustrial Complex Commission and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Budapest for home today. It had been making an official friendly visit to Hungary at the invitation of the Hungarian National Assembly. The delegation was seen off at the airport by I. Sarlos, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and president of the Hungarian National Assembly, and other officials.

The delegation was greeted at Moscow airport by K.V. Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials, as well as by S. Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR.

MSZMP POLITBURO APPROVES KADAR'S USSR VISIT

PM301223 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Complete Unity of Views"]

[Text] Budapest, 27 Sep -- At a session held here, the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo approved the results of the friendly working visit to the USSR by J. Kadar, general secretary of the MSZMP. The report on the session says that the MSZMP central Committee Politburo noted with satisfaction that the meeting and conversation between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and J. Kadar demonstrated a complete unity of views between the CPSU and the MSZMP on all the questions under discussion and confirmed the two parties' determination to strengthen the fraternal friendship and all-around cooperation between the USSR and Hungary on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

The MSZMP Central Committee politburo deems it important for the CPSU and the MSZMP to approach all the main questions of international life from identical positions. The MSZMP, the Hungarian government, and the Hungarian people fully support the USSR's consistent and principled foreign policy course and its constructive proposals aimed at curbing the arms race, preventing the militarization of space, eliminating the danger of nuclear war, and maintaining peace on our planet. Hungary will continue to tirelessly pursue a foreign policy which serves the cause of strengthening peace and international security. The session highly appraised the fact that the meeting drew particular attention to the need to improve the effectiveness of economic links, primarily in the priority directions for scientific-technical progress. The conviction was expressed that the further development of Soviet-Hungarian relations in all spheres will help to consolidate the unity and cohesion of the socialist community countries and deepen socialist economic integration.

Report on Kadar, Gorbachev Luncheon

LD021141 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet, and the Council of Ministers gave a luncheon in Moscow in honor of Janos Kadar. Mikhail Gorbachev, secretary general of the Central Committee, and several high-ranking party and state officials took part in the luncheon. Janos Kadar and Mikhail Gorbachev gave toasts at the lunch.

REPORTAGE ON GORBACHEV VISIT TO FRANCE

Moscow Departure

LD021249 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow today for France for an official visit at the invitation of the president of the French Republic, Francois Mitterrand. Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister; Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Komarov, USSR first deputy foreign trade minister, and Academician Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, departed with Comrade Gorbachev.

At Vnukovo Airport Comrade Gorbachev was seen off by members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, Comrades Aliyev, Grishin, Gromyko, Ligachev, Ryzhkov, Solomentsev, Tikhonov, and Chebrikov; candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, Comrades Demichev, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, and Ponomarev; CPSU Central Committee secretaries, Comrades Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Nikonov and Rusakov, and other comrades. France's charge d'affaires in the USSR was among those seeing him off.

[A Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1130 GMT on 2 September video report on the departure shows that Korniyenko was also present at the airport]

Paris Arrival

LD021756 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1610 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Report by unidentified correspondent]

[Text] Paris, 2 Oct (TASS) -- Today Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived in Paris. At Orly Airport, where the USSR and French state flags were raised, Mikhail Gorbachev was greeted at the aircraft steps by the president of the French Republic, Francois Mitterrand.

Mikhail Gorbachev received the highest military honors for his welcome. On the tarmac a guard of honor from the three branches of the Armed Forces was assembled, the commander of which presented his report to the important guest. The national anthems of the USSR and France were played.

After inspecting the guard of honor, Mikhail Gorbachev and Francois Mitterrand headed for the VIP lounge. Here Gaston Defferre, minister of state in charge of planning and regional development; Roland Dumas, minister of external relations; and other members of the French Government were presented to Mikhail Gorbachev. Soviet officials taking part in the visit, and also officials from the USSR Embassy, were presented to Francois Mitterrand.

Francois Mitterrand and Mikhail Gorbachev exchanged speeches of welcome.

Then Mikhail Gorbachev and Francois Mitterrand, traveling in a car accompanied by a motorcycle escort of honor, headed for the Marigny Place where the senior Soviet visitor will stay during the visit. On the streets and squares of the French capital along which the motorcade passed, the state flags of the two countries were displayed.

Mitterrand Airport Remarks

LD021644 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1514 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Speech by French President Francois Mitterrand on the occasion of the arrival of Mikhail Gorbachev and an accompanying delegation at Orly Airport in Paris; in French followed by translation into Russian -- live]

[Text] Mr Secretary General, Madam, it is an honor for France to welcome you today on your first trip to the West since you took office. I welcome you, as well as Mrs Gorbachev and the delegation accompanying you, to our country. We welcome you with all the esteem due to the eminent office you hold. The leader of an ancient and powerful nation of the world. We shall have the opportunity to discuss relations between our two countries, which are both European countries belonging to European civilization. They rest on a tradition of exchange over several centuries. The periods of history when we confronted each other are rare. And for a century and a half, as I shall say in more detail this evening, there has been no conflict to impair directly the respect our peoples have for each other.

I think your visit is timely. Our will to maintain an open and constructive dialogue with mutual respect has never been denied as long as conditions were ripe.

This is the spirit in which we receive you; this will, I think, be the spirit of our conversations. You know that today's world is divided between hope and uncertainty. Too many conflicts, too much suffering, too many violations of dignity and rights strike people today.

Mr General Secretary and Madam, I express the wish that this visit will satisfy your expectations, that it will make a useful contribution to the development of our relations in bilateral fields as in the conduct of world affairs. I also hope that on this beautiful summer evening in Paris, or rather this beautiful late summer which is still continuing, the constraints of a busy program will leave you with enough leisure to see our capital. In any case our welcome to you will be from authorities and a people who know to what extent your country is a fundamental factor in the stability of the world. You are welcome.

Gorbachev Response

LD021714 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1520 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Speech by Mikhail Gorbachev on arrival at Orly Airport in Paris -- live]

[Text] Esteemed Monsieur President, esteemed Madame Mitterrand, ladies and gentlemen, comrades: First of all I would like to thank you, Mr. President, for the invitation to carry out this visit to France. I would also like to thank you for the kind words you have just said about the Soviet Union and for the warm welcome on French soil.

As I understand it, our common intention is that the negotiations which begin today be politically rich and successful. I hope that our talks will serve as an impulse for the further fruitful development of relations between our countries, and will further the strengthening of mutual understanding between East and West. The USSR is ready for constructive dialogue with nations having other social systems and is ready to search for solutions to the accumulated European and world problems -- above all, a return to detente, a prevention of the arms race in space and the halting of the race on earth, and the reaching of new heights in international cooperation. We favor the highlighting of areas of convergence and coincidence of interests, and oppose the antilogic of confrontation with the logic of understanding.

Our visit to Paris is backed by a long tradition of meetings between leaders of the USSR and France. Our countries are by no means accidental partners. Cooperation in the political field is based on extensive business and cultural ties.

With these feelings we step onto French soil, awaiting the forthcoming talks with interest, and hope for their, on the whole, positive outcome. I take this opportunity to convey to the inhabitants of Paris and to all French women and Frenchmen wishes of well-being and happiness. Thank you. [applause]

'Businesslike 'Elysee Talk

LD022150 Moscow TASS in English 2142 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Paris, October 2 TASS -- General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev had a conversation with President Francois Mitterrand of France in the Elysee Palace on October 2.

The conversation was held in a businesslike, constructive atmosphere. An exchange of views was started in the spirit of traditional relations between the Soviet Union and France on the most important international problems of our time, as well as on issues of developing Soviet-French relations, and on some regional problems. The talks will be continued.

Mitterrand Hosts Dinner

LD022115 Moscow TASS in English 2110 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Paris, October 2 Tass -- Francois Mitterrand, president of the French Republic, today gave an official dinner in the Elysee Palace in honour of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and a member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The dinner was attended by French cabinet members and notable politicians, public figures and representatives of the business and scientific communities, and by Soviet officials participating in the visit.

Francois Mitterrand and Milhail Gorbachev exchanged speeches, which were heard with close attention and greeted with applause.

Gorbachev Dinner Speech

LD031146 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] The official visit to France by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, is continuing. As we have already reported, a conversation took place in the Elysee Palace on 2 October between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Francois Mitterrand, president Republic of French.

Yesterday evening, Francois Mitterrand gave an official dinner in the Elysee Palace in honor of Comrade Gorbachev. Francois Mitterrand and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev delivered speeches at the dinner which were listened to with great attention and met with applause.

We receive you with the realization of the fact that this is an important event for our bilateral relations and for the search for balance which is necessary in Europe and throughout the world, Francois Mitterrand said in part in his speech at the dinner. I would like to say that Franco-Soviet cooperation is one of the basic elements of our foreign policy. The fact that we belong to different military alliances and to different economic and political systems demands from both sides mutual respect, frank language, and a striving for dialogue so that the spirit of openness will prevail over lack of understanding. In this connection, I thank you, Mr Secretary General, for showing an example by considering at our first meeting the major issues of our time.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev then spoke. He said:

[Begin recording] Esteemed Mr President, Esteemed Mrs Mitterrand, ladies and gentlemen, comrades. I thank you, Mr President, for the kind words that you have spoken here and, of course, for the invitation to pay an official visit to France, a country which traditionally occupies a special place in the feelings of Soviet people and in the foreign policy of our state.

For more than a decade Soviet-French dialogue has been a major, one could say an irreplaceable, political quantity in European and international reality. It is not only to the benefit of our countries and our peoples and of no harm to anyone that contacts between the USSR and France, including contacts at summit level, are again becoming very rich and that relations on the whole are acquiring an on-going dynamism. We are in favor of strengthening this tendency by efforts in response. This is urgently required by the current, rather troubled state of international affairs.

It is obvious that in analyzing the reasons why the world situation is marked by increased tension your views and ours differ on many points. But this should not hinder, and it appears is not hindering agreement on the main thing -- recognition of the need to improve the international situation. The well-known French writer Exupery expressed the simple but very deep truth. We are all passengers on the same ship, the earth. In the nuclear and space age the navigators of this ship, those who are entrusted with the leadership of states, bear immeasurably more responsibility than before. To find and adjust a course toward a peaceful future, toward a diminution of the terrible danger hanging over the peoples. That, we are convinced, is the primary duty of statesmen and politicians to the present generation and to the generations to come. Where should one start? One should start today, immediately, to go over to more stable and safer relations among states.

We think that some things are self-evident. What is needed first of all is mutual restraint, a clear demonstration of peaceful intentions and predictability in political behavior. By a whole range of its initiatives during the past few months, and primarily by the steps that it has taken unilaterally, the Soviet Union has demonstrated in what it has done that it is ready for reasonable compromises and that it awaits an identical [adekvatnyy] response. We would also like to count on an increase of activity in favor of curtailing military preparations from France, from Western Europe as a whole, from the United States, and from all other states, irrespective of their social systems and geographical locations. At the same time, political dialogue between East and West is more necessary than ever before. We must all come to know each other's point of view better; to bring out the areas where our interests are in contact and balance and to establish at least a minimum degree of trust. I think that the main political and psychological burden of the Soviet-French talks that have begun today is also in this now. And we hope that the meeting with U.S. President Reagan in Geneva will take place in the same spirit.

Naturally, here in Paris one is talking primarily about Soviet-French cooperation. I think that our esteemed French partners will agree that when our countries stood at the source of detente in the 1970's this raised the possibilities both of the USSR and of France on the international arena. The joint documents which were then signed have been the basis of many important international accords, and neither of us has introduced changes against its sociopolitical system. And we and you have observed the obligations undertaken by virtue of participation in the Warsaw Pact and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization respectively.

Our first conversation with you, Mr President, a thorough conversation which passed in a spirit of frankness, in the favorable meaning of that word, showed, I think, that the USSR and France are in favor of restraining the arms race in a number of its most dangerous directions, and this is a radical issue. Indeed, if universal and complete disarmament remains a noble aim but one that is not yet close, then at least there should be negotiation about a reasonable sufficiency of armaments, primarily nuclear ones, and about maintaining strategic stability at the lowest possible level of this sufficiency The Soviet Union is resolutely in favor of this.

Over the past year or two, however, a qualitatively new element has arisen. This lies in the fact that an attempt is being made to transfer military rivalry -- as if there were not enough of it on earth -- into space, too. If the initiators of this idea persist in advancing along the dangerous path that they have mapped out, stern times really do lie ahead for the world.

As for the Soviet Union, it will do everything incumbent on it to prevent the spread of the arms race to outer space. We believe that in this we are expressing the wishes of the overwhelming majority of states and of all those not lacking in reason and a sense of responsibility. We are greatly gratified that the USSR and France are in favor of outer space being not an arena of military conflict but of peaceful cooperation. Our two countries have behind them more than 40 years of joint experiments in the study of near-earth space and now also of Venus and Halley's Comet. Experts from both countries propose expanding mutual cooperation. I think the political authorities [instantsi] will support this.

As you know, we are also calling for broader joint effort including the creation of a world space organization on nonmilitarization of outer space. This proposal is now being discussed in the United Nations.

For understandable reasons I have dwelt in greater detail on outer space. But, of course, Soviet-French exchange of opinion embraces many international problems. On some of them we have the opportunity to bring our views closer together, and at times also to translate the emerging proximity into practical actions, parallel, but leading to the same goal. In this respect, above all, the broad complex of European affairs stands out. This subject requires a special talk, and I am sure it will occupy a worthy place in our talks.

For now I will stress a single idea. The Soviet Union is for enhancing the role of Europe, the homeland of the Helsinki Final Act and the policy of detente, in the activity of improving the international climate. The Soviet Union and France can, each for its own part, and sometimes also perhaps jointly, promote this. Soviet-French political consultations are also useful when it is a question of promoting the elimination of hotbeds of tension and conflicts, be it in the Near East, in Central America, or southern Africa. As a matter of fact, contact between our countries on these problems is proceeding virtually constantly. Perhaps it is time to increase its fruitfulness where that is possible.

In today's world, problems of international economic relations have become very acute. Inequality and discrimination in these relations, the use of economic and financial levers for political pressure, have led to a number of countries landing in a simply disastrous position.

It is the duty of the world community to help them. The Soviet Union is not evading this duty and is doing not less but more than many others. I will say in passing that the USSR is ready to take part in a conference on the interrelation of disarmament and development which is to take place next year in Paris.

Naturally, we are ready for further broad development of bilateral trade and economic relations. Their reliable foundation is mutual benefit, in keeping with the demands of the times. Both within our country and in our foreign economic relations we give priority to scientific-technical progress. We know that France, too, lays great stress on development of the most advanced technological lines. This opens up fresh horizons for bilateral cooperation.

Another question is how better to organize our cooperation so that it may bring the greatest yield to both sides. It is here that there is something to work on, both for our economic planners [khozyaystvenniki] and your business people.

The spiritual life of the peoples is unthinkable without an exchange of cultural values. In our day a special function is allocated to them. In essence, denying hostility and wars, and culture and art are called on to serve the cause of peace and progress, rapprochement of the peoples on the basis of mutual respect and benevolence. We would like that, in this respect too, the Soviet Union and France should set a good example.

In a word, we have come to Paris, inspired by the good desire to advance Soviet-French cooperation in all areas. This is important in itself. From your remarks, Mr President, it follows that such, too, is the intention of France. And since that is so, one can reckon that together we will succeed in bringing closer, if ever so little, the day when, according to the prediction of Victor Hugo, the only battlefield will be the markets open for trade, and minds open for ideas.

To your health, Mr President, to the health of Mrs Mitterrand, to the health of all the high-ranking French representatives present here, to the strengthening and development of friendly relations between the Soviet and French peoples, between the USSR and France. [applause] [end recording]

French Coverage

For coverage of the visit to France by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, including reports on his meetings with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 2 October Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

French TV Interview Comparison

Paris Television Service in French at 1930 GMT on 1 October carries a 65-minute recorded interview with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev by French TF-1 journalists Alain Denvers, Yves Mourousi and Dominique Bromberger in the Kremlin on 30 September. The journalists' questions are in French, and Gorbachev's replies are in Russian with superimposed French translation. The Paris TF-1 Television version has been compared with the referent Moscow Television version in Russian, published in the 2 October Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, p G4, and has been found to be identical except for the following variations:

Page G 4, paragraph eight, last line, of referent item, Paris version reads ...Are you not? Are you aware... (omitting Gorbachev's reply)

Page G 5, paragraph one, last line, Paris version reads ...concerning human rights. At the moment in Paris there have recently been some demonstrations. Does this sadden you? Does it make you reconsider some of your stances? You know very well -- you aren't cut off from the world here -- so what do you think of the anti-Gorbachev posters? What do you think of what you have surely been told about what is happening in Paris? [New paragraph] [Gorbachev] Your question ...(supplying additional passage)

Paragraphs two, line three, Paris version reads ...the television viewers. But in reply to the question of why we, my colleagues and I, are going to France, I believe that the reply to that also contains a reply to your question. Of course we... (supplying additional passage)

Paragraph three, penultimate line, Paris version reads ...in order to reduce the tension that has built up in the last few years. [new paragraph] We are different... (supplying alternate wording)

Paris version omits from paragraph five, line one... [Question] Mr General Secretary... through page G 6; paragraph three, last line... us look ahead...

Page G 6, paragraph five, first line, Paris version reads ...[Gorbachev] No, I don't think so. What happens in... (supplying additional passage)

Paragraph six, line one, Paris version reads ...all social democratic countries of Europe? [new paragraph]

[Gorbachev] We think that... (supplying alternate wording and omitting passage, picking up at paragraph seven, line five.

Page G 8, paragraph three, last line, Paris version reads ...explained our proposals. But since we will have the chance to meet in Paris again, I promise that I will then answer you... (supplying additional passage)

Page G 9, paragraph one, line two, Paris version reads ...of political consciousness. Someone, one of the international observers, said that previously wars would erupt as a consequence of political conflicts, and now because of this militarization this very large process makes it impossible to begin a political dialogue. It is difficult to get the negotiations off the ground. We can feel this. And what will... (supplying additional passage)

Paragraph three, last line, Paris version reads ...on these questions. I believe that is in fact one of the most serious reasions why we are going to France... (supplying additional passage), Paris version omits form paragraph four, line one ... [question] Let us... through paragraph five, last line ...toiling at present...

Paragraph six, line six, Paris version reads ...Soviet Jews to emigrate, couldn't all this be a sign of the Gorbachev changes? [new paragraph]

[Gorbachev] I do... (supplying alternate wording)

Page G 10, paragraph three, last line, Paris version reads ...the Supreme Soviet. [new paragraph] It seems people believe that the greatest of political rights is to be able to demonstrate. Well, what happens? This is a strong argument in the hands of the working class to draw attention to its difficulties and problems, that is, a demonstration. But it must be said that demonstrations go on and on while the situaion remains the same. Sometimes it takes centuries, or at least decades, for their problems to be resolved by this means. No, in our country people do not go and demonstrate, [illegible] done in our country, in the Soviet Union, is done in the interests of

You will say that that there are facts. Yes, there are instances. In a country as large as the Soviet Union -- I have told you how many inhabitants we have -- there are certainly people who, by virtue of this or that logic, have found themselves at odds with the Soviet power, with socialism; they profess another ideology. There are some cases of people who think like that. That is their business. There are problems when cases arise which are ultimately presented in such a way as to harm the Soviet Union and to reduce its authority in the eyes of the workers, when this or that person comes into conflict with the law. And in this case Shcharanskiy. [sentence as heard] So that is what we are thinking of. This is what we are aiming against. This is what happened to Shcharanskiy. You know what happened with Shcharanskiy. We don't want to give information to public opinion by roundabout ways. No, he broke our laws. And do you know which law? (supplying additional passages and alternate wording)

Paragraph four, last line, Paris version reads ...the cultural process. They are well known people in the country. [new paragraph] When questions of... (supplying additional passage)

Paragraph five, last line, Paris version reads ...solve these questions. There are problems of mixed marriages, the problem of family reunion, and so forth. [new paragraph]

[Question] If you will allow me, isn't it precisely here that Gorbachev can change things in the Soviet Union, and the image of the Soviet Union in the world? I can understand your reasoning very well, but isn't this a place where you can give the Soviet Union a new prestige image? Because when you say: it is going to be studied -- you are a lawyer yourself -- it seems that there you are opening a small door. So if you say it is going to be studied, I would like to know if it isn't precisely by such studies, Faced with these images of the Soviet Union, that you could change something today. Is it true... (supplying additional passage)

Paragraph nine, line two, Paris version reads ...style of leadership. The West has been able to get to know your wife. Tell me, is... (supplying alternate wording)

Page G 11, paragraph one, line eleven, Paris version reads ...reflection in policies -- all this was fervently desired by Lenin during the first years for the Communist Party. We try to emulate this ideal. This is how we approach questions, on the moral, personal and political level. The example of Lenin is the best. Lenin is not a god, but a man, a real one, and we use his ideas and his methods, and his approach to get our inspiration and to understand better our role in life today, in the current situation. I believe that this is to follow the path sketched out by Lenin. It is his style. [new paragraph] [Question] Together with... (supplying additional passage and alternate wording]

Paragraph three, line one, Paris version reads ...a normal process. I believe it must be said that there have been periods during which there have been departures from this normal process. There have been some particular aspects [word indistinct] to explain. Every generation makes... (supplying additional passage and alternate wording)

Same paragraph, line four, Paris version reads ...the Soviet Union, whatever their rank, will make its... (supplying additional words)

Paragraph five, line two, Paris version reads ...with this problem. But if in general you are interested in what Iam interested in, as far as culture is concerned, well, it is a huge question. Wherever you visit... (supplying additional passage)

Paragraph seven, line one, Paris version of the interview with Gorbachev ends with the words ...representatives of French television.

CHIRAC CHALLENGES GORBACHEV ON HUMAN RIGHTS

AU031115 Paris AFP in English 1110 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Paris, Oct 3 (AFP) -- French opposition leader Jacques Chirac today delivered a hard-hitting message to visiting Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev, urging Moscow to "make a gesture" concerning human rights and criticizing the arms build-up by the Soviet Union.

Mr. Chirac, who is also mayor of Paris, welcoming Mr. Gorbachev to City Hall here noted that all the provisions of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act had not been respected, "particularly those on human rights and freedoms," without naming the Soviet Union.

But he recalled "with emotion" the fate of "all those deprived of freedoms because of their convictions. I also think about the Jews of the USSR who are not permitted to leave the territory.

"It goes without saying that there is no question for us to challenge the sovereign rights of each state, but I am certain that French public opinion would be most sensitive to a gesture in their favour."

Mr. Gorbachev, who listened impassively while the leader of the conservative neo-Gaullist RPR (Rally for the Republic) party addressed an audience composed mainly of diplomats, applauded at the end of the speech and shook Mr. Chirac's hand.

The Soviet leader replied in a speech in Russian read by an aide, in which he did not evoke the human rights question and hammered home his now familiar theme of the dangers of nuclear war.

Dwelling at length on the beauty of Paris, which has been bathed in sunlight since his arrival, Mr. Gorbachev said that "Moscow and Paris have become the symbols of detente."

Mr. Chirac, a probable presidential candidate in the 1988 elections, focussed his speech on a topic that President Francois Mitterrand had touched on only briefly at an official banquet last night, despite being a long-time champion of human rights.

The socialist president, who when in Moscow in June last year had mentioned the name of Soviet dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov during a toast, last night did not bring up specific cases and said that France did not involve itself in matters of Soviet sovereignty.

Mr. Chirac, in an apparent reference to the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, further said that "some Soviet initiatives in different parts of the world" had met with French displeasure. "We have clearly let this be known."

He also criticized the Soviet build-up of conventional, chemical and nuclear arms against Western Europe "which seems to us to be way above its needs for its own security and that of its allies."

The opposition leader said that the two superpowers must set the example on disarmament and hoped for "real progress" at the upcoming Gorbachev summit with U.S. President Ronald Reagan next month in Geneva.

Mr. Gorbachev was accompanied to the City Hall reception by Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who had earlier gone to the Arc de Triomphe with the Soviet leader to lay a wreath of red roses and carnations at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Traffic in central Paris was diverted while Mr. Gorbachev's convoy made its way along the Seine from the Arc de Triomphe to City Hall about three miles away, past the Pont Neuf, wrapped in gold nylon by the artist Christo.

Mr. Gorbachev, who arrived here yesterday on a four-day visit, was scheduled today to have a further round of private talks with Mr. Mitterrand, and to meet Prime Minister Laurent Fabius and French parliamentarians.

MITTERRAND REFUSES TO JOIN REAGAN'S 'SEVEN'

LD021753 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] New York, October 2 TASS -- The U.S. Administration has planned to set up, within the framework of preparations for the upcoming Soviet-U.S. summit, the "United Western propaganda front" in an attempt to "neutralize" the Soviet peace initiatives.

To this end, the press reports, President Reagan invited leaders of Britain, Italy, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Japan to come to New York and me meet with him on October 24 to discuss military, economic and political issues in the light of the coming Geneva meeting. The pretext for the organisation of this forum should become the supposed presence of representatives of these countries at the U.N. General Assembly session where Reagan intends to make on October 23-24 a "Policy setting speech" in advance of the Soviet-U.S. summit.

It is reported that by this speech the President intends to set the tune to the propaganda campaign in advance of the Geneva meeting by focusing on the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative" programme and also a number of regional issues.

The White House contemplates on the leaders of seven states to declare in favour of the U.S. "star wars" programme. This move would allow the United States to speak on this issue in Geneva on behalf of the "seven." At the same time, they in Washington believe that each such support will give the United States a pretext to demonstrate, according to administration officials, the "position of strength" approach to the planned talks with the Soviet Union. Concurrently, an attempt will be made to downgrade by propaganda actions the significance of the Soviet Peace initiatives opening up the way to a possible arms limitation agreement.

Paris, October 2 TASS -- The Office of the President of France has released a statement which says that Francois Mitterrand refused to accept the invitation by Reagan who initiated the holding of a meeting of leaders of the United States, Britain, Italy, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Japan in New York on October 24.

The United States' proposal is incompatible with the policy of independence towards the great powers, pursued by France, France Presse News Agency stresses in its commentary on this decision. Besides, says the agency, France critically assesses the effectiveness of such conferences of Western leaders.

IMPORTANCE OF GORBACHEV'S VISIT TO FRANCE NOTED

LD021333 Moscow in French to France and Belgium 1830 GMT 1 Oct 85

["A Publicist's Notes" by Boris Tumanov]

[Text] Dear listeners, good evening. On the eve of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to France I think of the words uttered by De Gaulle in Moscow in 1966 and which, in my view, express the raison d'ete of Soviet-French relations: "The Soviet Union represents for France an interlocutor with whom mutual understanding and cooperation come entirely naturally," he said.

The Soviet Union and France have been capable in the past of assuming their joint responsibilities. We are allies during the last war but we were also the artisans of detente, and this in my view is extremely important.

The cooperation between our two countries went beyond the bilateral framework in the 1970's to become an example for the rest of the world, an East-West modus vivendi character. It is for this reason that I do not intend to encumber myself with subtle nuances to tell you what I think or, rather that of which I am convinced. The international situation being what it is, the leaders of the USSR and of France are meeting not in order to make circumstantial speeches or engender protocol occasions but to make a serious and [word indistinct] analysis of the efforts which the two countries make jointly in order to safeguard peace. It is absolutely clear that a wider and more dynamic cooperation between the USSR and France in all fields could become one of the first and most efficient efforts to that effect. Today more than ever one must ban all cliches and ready-made ideas not only from political language but also from the people's mentality. One can no longer afford the dangerous and irresponsible luxury of sowing mistrust, suspicion, and hatred which only sprout roots in the fanatical prejudices of the Middle Ages.

I know that certain French newspapers of politicians continue their usual litany of the Soviet threat or the need to change the regime in the USSR. I also know that they command a certain audience in the country but this does not give them the right to claim to speak on behalf of France as a whole. As La Rochefoucauld said: There is no more embarassing idiot that the one who has a sense of humor [as heard]. I may add that these idiots are more dangerous. However, every cloud has a silver lining and the sometimes too noisy existence of the enemies of our bilateral friendship can only emphasize the need to consolidate France-Soviet relations as a very important factor for political stability in Europe and in the world.

Yes, we are different and this is a fact. At the same time, however, we have too many values and hopes in common not to consolidate them.

PRAVDA VIEWS FRANCE-SOVIET ECONOMIC, SPACE TIES

PM011013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Sep 85 First Edition p 6

[Own special correspondents Ye. Grigoryev and I. Shchedrov dispatch: "The USSR Is a Reliable Partner; So Say the French About Cooperation With Our Country"]

[Excerpts] Paris, 29 Sep -- A great and important event is approaching. At the start of October, M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, will pay an official visit to France.

The political and international importance of the forthcoming meetings and talks in the French capital is obvious. The questions of ensuring peace and security have always occupied a central place in relations between two powers such as the USSR and France. At the same time a component such as economic, scientific, technical, and other practical cooperation has always been and continues to be of major importance.

Today France is one of the Soviet Union's largest trade and economic partners in West Europe. Over the last 5 years (1980-1984) trade turnover between our countries amounted to around R20 billion. It has more than doubled in comparison with 1975-1979. These dynamics speak for themselves. Last spring agreement was reached on preparing a new draft agreement on economic cooperation in 1986-1990.

Trade and economic ties between our countries are extremely multifaceted. Here is what Arnaud Lenard, president and director general of Vallourec [French steel pipe manufacturer], said about cooperation with our country: "The Soviet Union is a reliable partner with whom relations can boldly be built on a long-term basis. The prospects for cooperation, if one considers our plans and the great and important changes taking place in the Soviet Union, are immense."

For its part, the Soviet Union is also interested in developing mutually advantageous relations with France, which is a leading industrial power with a high level of modern technology, electronics, and machine building. Not only are French exports of equipment growing but other forms of cooperation are also expanding. For instance, a long-term contract with Renault is being implemented in connection with the development and production of a new version of the "Moskvich." French business circles are showing great interest in deepening cooperation in the power and oil- and gas-refining sectors, as well as in the agricultural sphere.

There was a businesslike conversation about the prospect for mutually advantageous and equal cooperation at the 19th session of the joint Soviet-French Standing Commission for Scientific, Technical, and Economic Cooperation held in Paris in the spring. E. Cresson, minister of industrial development and foreign trade, told your correspondent at the time that, despite the existing difficulties, Soviet-French trade and economic relations in the first half of the eighties have developed and continue to develop on the upbeat. At the same time there has been a balancing out of trade relations with the USSR both through increased purchases of agricultural produce and through expanding exports of French machine building.

In recent months a number of major new long-term contracts have been concluded by Soviet foreign trade organizations and the leading French firms Technip, Lurgi-France, and (Litvin). They envisage cooperation in the construction of gas purification complexes in the USSR. A contract has also been concluded with Interagra -- one of the largest French exporters of agricultural products.

Cooperation between the Soviet Union and France in the study and peaceful exploration of near-earth space has become a large and promising sphere. It is acquiring a long-term nature. Great work has been done in the nearly 2 decades that have passed since the signing in 1966 of the agreement on cooperation in the research and utilization of space for peaceful purposes. An important landmark along this path was the joint flight in a Soviet spaceship in 1982 by the first West European astronaut -- French citizen Jean-Louis Chretien, who has been awarded the lofty title of Hero of the Soviet Union. At the now traditional Franco-Soviet meeting on the peaceful exploration of space in Marseilles in September a joint program for the study of Venus, Mars, and its satellite Phobos was discussed.

When talk turns to further work, Jean Fevrier, secretary general of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, with whom we met in Paris, is optimistic on the whole. This is an influential organization uniting around 230 French companies, banks, and other institutions. For many years the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce has effectively promoted the development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between our countries.

In the opinion of the journal published by the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, the present level of bilateral economic relations could be considerably increased and even multiplied if the various obstacles standing in their way were removed and compromises suiting both sides found. These difficulties are well-known. They are created to a considerable extent by the restrictions on trade with the socialist countries imposed by Washington on its NATO allies. A special organ for trade and economic "censorship" -- the so-called Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] -- exists for this purpose. Since the start of this year, the press reports, its catalogs of "blacklisted" goods have been expanded even further.

The "Common Market" restrictions hampering both exports of certain goods to the USSR and imports of many types of Soviet exports are among the artificial difficulties. Certain difficulties (recognized by representatives of business circles themselves) are created by French firms' reduced competitiveness in comparison with the companies of a number of other Western countries. The agreements on the utilization of the European Currency Unit adopted in the "Common Market" for financing imports and exports are called upon to ease matters. In a number of cases the course of developing bilateral ties is promoted by the position of France itself, which has openly opposed Washington pressure aimed at wrecking East-West trade and economic relations.

Great attention in French business circles is being attached to the revival of political ties between our countries that has recently emerged. The fact that for a number of years -- and not through the fault of the Soviet Union -- none of the traditional Franco-Soviet summits were held, the newspaper L'HUMANITE notes, has affected the entire range of bilateral ties, including economic ties. French politicians and representatives of influential business circles are pointing with increasing frequency to the interdependence of the development of economic ties and the political situation prevailing in the world and Europe. Many of them advocate an improvement in the international climate, a return to detente and an expansion of political contacts and economic exchanges between East and West, France and the USSR.

Great importance in this connection is being attached here to the forthcoming Soviet visit. Despite opposition from the enemies of detente, the idea that both sides are interested in the development of Franco-Soviet economic, scientific, and technical links and that the prerequisite for peace and security is not the stoking of tension but the strengthening of cooperation and mutual understanding is gaining increasing acceptance here in France.

IZVESTIYA ON ADVANTAGES OF RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

PM021042 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Own special correspondents Yu. Kovalenko and V. Matveyev article: "USSR-France: Developing Good Traditions; IZVESTIYA Special Correspondents Report from Paris"]

[Text] Like any large city, Paris not only wakes early but goes to sleep late. It sometimes seems as if it does not sleep at all. The first editions of newspapers can be bought on the Champs Elysees at two in the morning.

If journalists are the last to go to bed, newspaper-vendors appear on the streets when the sun is not yet burnishing the top of the Eiffel Tower. Currently the number one topic in all the mass media is the official visit to France by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the invitation of French President F. Mitterrand.

It is not the first time that Paris has been the venue for Soviet-French summits. In the eyes of French people -- and, of course, not only them -- the specifics of the current international situation make it particularly important. "France and the Soviet Union have a most direct interest in maintaining peace and strengthening security in Europe," R. Barre, the well-known politician and former prime minister, stated the other day. He particularly noted the need to maintain close contacts and hold a dialogue at the highest level between our two countries.

The position of French business circles is evidenced by a special issue of the journal exportation magazine which has been published here. "A new start," trumpets the cover headline in Russian and French.

"Welcome, Mikhail Gorbachev!" -- these words are front-paged in Russian by I'HUMANITE DIMANCHE.

Many foreign journalists have gathered here. They will be covering the lofty Soviet guest's visit along with the French. Many millions of people will be following the forthcoming talks and following them in the expectation of positive results.

Cooperation between the USSR and France in constructive areas has been and continues to be of great importance. Both countries were not just at the roots of the process of easing tension in Europe, but through joint efforts helped to ensure that it had a favorable influence on improving the overall political climate in the world.

It is natural that many commentators are now recalling 1966 -- the start of active high-level dialogue between our country and France at a time when a seat of armed conflict unleashed by the United States was raging in Southeast Asia, when tension had intensified in the Near East, and when Europe had not yet relinquished the oppressive atmosphere of the "cold war."

But even Soviet-French relations left something to be desired at that time. The will shown by both sides made it possible to achieve substantial shifts in a short period. What had for years seemed difficult and even impossible turned out to be feasible in an atmosphere of goodwill when the sides, without abandoning any of their principles or convictions, showed readiness to seek mutually advantageous accords and reached them on important questions of bilateral relations and peace policy.

Needless to say, the past 2 decades of Soviet-French relations have not been all plain sailing without any hitches. International life and its acute problems and the crisis situations that arise often inflict stress on relations among the Western countries, and not only among states with different social systems.

There are forces and circles with no interest in the development of Soviet-French relations and cooperation between the two countries which nervously view any step forward along this road as unhealthy. Their address is no secret for anyone The handwriting betrays their transatlantic origins. On the eve of the Soviet-French summit they have noticeably increased their activities.

The great assets and experience of joint cooperation that have amassed shows that by attaching paramount importance to the supreme interests of peace and good-neighborliness and by being guided by fundamental national interests, the USSR and France are capable of overcoming the sometimes serious obstacles hindering their equal and mutually advantageous cooperation and complicating the situation in Europe and beyond.

For our party and government the line of developing relations with France is not a matter of prevailing conditions. We recall V.I. Lenin's directive: "Any rapproachement with France is extremely desirable for us, particularly in view of the fact that Russia's trade interests urgently require rapprochement with this very strong continental power."

V.I. Lenin made that statement in the fall of 1922 in connection with a trip to Soviet Russia by E. Herriot, leader of the French Radical Party. The ideological distance between the views of this French politician and what was being proclaimed by the socialist revolution in Russia did not prevent E. Herriot from being a consistent proponent, as he wrote in the book "New Russia" that he published as a reuslt of his trip, of "reconciliation between the Russian republic and France." "Let us struggle against the blind hatred, the vile hatred that has never created anything," the author appealed.

These words have not lost their meaning today! Some people would like to gain political capital of the most dubious nature by stirring up an atmosphere of hostility in France toward our country. Certain French journalists are trying to explain this fuss by the domestic political conditions prevailing in the country; The approaching parliamentary election and the right-wing parties' tactics. But here the "hand" of those who in no way want to tolerate the existence of real socialism can be seen.

"The conquest of truths that promote the good of man," Anatole France noted, "is a long and difficult matter." One of those truths in the present era of immense opportunities for developing mankind's creative potential and of simultaneously the most serious and threatening military dangers is precisely the assertion of the principle of peaceful coexistence and cooperation among states with different social systems. The USSR and France have been able to fill this principle with meaningful, specific content. A great deal of what has been done by both countries both in their relations and in the international arena is a most positive example.

One can point to the prevailing mechanism for joint political consultations and regular summits, the development of a long-term program for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, and the joint implementation of major industrial projects. In these areas the USSR and France have been the initiators of a practice of relations among states with different social systems that has subsequently spread on a wider scale.

Soviet-French agreement and cooperation played a prominent part in organizing the all-European cooperation process and in achieving the historic Helsinki accords.

Diplomats, enterprise leaders, technical specialists, and cultural and scientific figures from both countries have learned to collaborate and cooperation with each other.

The cause of disarmament occupies a most important place in the efforts being made by both our countries in the political sphere. There are real opportunities for Soviet-French cooperation in this key sphere to promote desirable progress. But it must be said bluntly that it is not because of any shortage of effort on the Soviet side that these opportunities are not being exploited as they should. In recent years there have been trends in French foreign policy that do not promote progress in the direction of disarmament. Entirely unsubstantiated allegations have been brandished to the effect that NATO is "lagging behind" the Warsaw Pact countries and, therefore, the West must accelerate the arms race.

The Soviet Union is demonstrating its readiness in practice to curb the arms race. The further implementation of our measures in response to the siting of new U.S. missiles in West Europe has been halted. A Soviet moratorium on all nuclear weapons tests is in force.

Can the obsessiveness with which the current U.S. Administration is pushing ahead with the arms race and planning to spread it to space be ignored? A threat would then hand over entire continents, not least Europe.

Speaking in the Great Kremlin Palace 21 July 1984 during his visit to the USSR, French President Francois Mitterrand stated that France would be open to any serious proposal in the disarmament sphere. In his opinion, rapid progress in the disarmament sphere is possible on questions such as the rejection of the first use of force, the prohibition of chemical weapons, the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, the prevention of a race in space arms, and so forth.

The loud voice of France in favor of disarmament measures would undoubtedly be of great importance in achieving the desired shifts in this key sphere, on which the prosperity of all states and the health of their economies, finances, and so forth depend.

It is possible and necessary to raise Soviet-French relations to a new level corresponding to the high demands of the time. Our two countries will benefit from this, as well the cause of peace.

PRAVDA ASSESSES BUNDESTAG SECURITY DEBATE

PM020922 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Sep 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Yakhontov dispatch: "Against the 'Risk Strategy'; Clash in the FRG Bundestag"]

[Text] Bonn, 29 Sep -- Many observers described the recent "topical issues debate" in the Bundestag, when at the instance of the parties of the ruling Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union [CDU/CSU] bloc the so-called "Von Buelow Document" was discussed, as an overture to the election campaign, which, it is believed here, has virtually started already, although there are still around 500 days to the parliamentary elections.

Andreas von Buelow, the chairman of the Security Policy Committee of the Social Democratic Party [SPD], set forth his views on future FRG military policy, bearing in mind that they could be a subject for subsequent discussion.

He proposed replacing the present NATO concepts based on the "balance of fear," which is accelerating the arms race, with an East-West "security partnership." Deeming it necessary to abandon the NATO doctrine of first nuclear strike and "forward" defense, he advocated the withdrawal of Pershing II missiles and U.S. troops from FRG territory and Soviet troops from the GDR. The document notes that there is no Eastern superiority over the West in the sphere of either conventional or nuclear arms and that military equilibrium exists.

Needless to say, these "seditious" ideas, underming the foundations of the military-political strategy of Washington and the NATO bloc as a whole, triggered a storm of indignation in the parties of the ruling right-wing liberal coalition. E. Bahr, the eminent SPD figure, noted that the atmosphere in which the debates were held in the Bundestag and the CDU/CSU reaction to the "Von Buelow Document" vividly reminded him of the discussion of the question of the ratification of the "Eastern treaties." As was the case then, the parliament hall resounded to the same exclamations, cries, and retorts. Defense Minister M. Woerner accused Von Buelow of threatening the FRG's position in the NATO bloc with his document.

Deputy A. Biehle from the Bavarian CSU came down even more strongly: "Those who deny that the USSR threatens the FRG want the dissolution of NATO." "Whoever proposes cooperation with the Soviet Union in the security sphere thereby advocates the end of the security partnership with the United States," is the belief of A. Dregger, chairman of the CDU/CSU faction and Chancellor Kohl's right-hand man.

The speech by H. Ehmke, deputy chairman of the SPD faction, who stated that the ruling bloc wants to replace security policy with "vassal devotion to Reagan and downright right-wing ideology" was a sobering shower for the hotheads from the CDU/CSU. Instead of keeping their promise to strive for peace with the help of fewer and fewer weapons, the government, by amassing arms -- ranging from nuclear missiles to chemical toxins -- on West German soil, is increasing tension, the speaker noted.

The Bundestag clash was assessed by many observers as evidence of the profound and fundamental differences between the opposition and the ruling coalition parties on the most important and urgent question of the day. While the opposition -- in this case the SPD -- is persistently seeking ways of easing the military confrontation in Europe and strengthening security and peace on the continent, the CDU/CSU bloc has again appeared to the West German public to be the blind follower of Washington militarists.

The storms raised in the ruling coalition camp in connection with the "Von Buelow Document" by no means died down after its debate in the Bundestag. On the contrary, the CDU/CSU continues to stigmatize the authors of the "seditious ideas" and the SPD as a whole, accusing them of every mortal sin. The right wing of the "Christians" and above all the Bavarian conservatives -- well known for their pro-U.S. sympathies -- are particularly galled. And rightly so, after all they are witnessing the debunking of the "peace-loving" concept of a universe crammed with weapons in Reagan's "Strategic Defense Initiative," which is being presented here as allegedly the best means of reducing nuclear missile arsenals.

But in the other camp, and particularly in Social Democratic circles, the ideas expressed by von Buelow have stimulated a lively and fruitful discussion during which many interesting and useful ideas are being expressed. These are based not on blind obedience to Washington, but on a sober assessment of the situation prevailing in the world and recognition of the need to adopt immediate measures to defend peace.

Observers and the press have been drawing attention to the proposals by six SPD experts on security policy questions, who, just like von Buelow, reject any type of "risk strategy." Criticizing the intention to equip the Bundeswehr with long-range guided weapons intended to hit targets deep inside the Warsaw pact countries the authors of the document write: "and all this is to be further crowned with participation in the 'Strategic Defense Initiative' and, moreover, the creation of a no less illusory 'umbrella' protecting Europe from missiles. They want us to return to a funereal faith in some kind of 'wonder weapon.'"

Similar ideas are also expressed in a document produced by a committee of Bavarian Social Democrats dealing with the development of a defensive security concept. "Making a whole generation of researchers work on developing [rezrabotka] new and extremely complex weapons systems in the face of existing world problems is nothing but perversion and irresponsibility," is their conclusion.

These distortions and this irresponsibility, which may cost the FRG, its people, and Europeans as a whole very dearly, are being opposed by an ever greater number of people here who recognize their responsibility to present and future generations, and this process cannot be stopped.

POLLS REVEAL WEST EUROPEANS OPPOSE SDI

LD012329 Moscow World Service in English 1810 GMT 1 Oct 85

[Viktor Olin Commentary]

[Excerpt] In an interview for the Paris newspaper FIGARO, President Reagan alleged that development of space arms would raise the ability of the United States to defend Western Europe. The President felt that action on the star wars program would create a possibility to intercept ballistic as well as medium-range missiles. More on the subject from our commentator, Viktor Olin, who writes:

Do the West Europeans believe the myth of a Soviet military threat from which the United States President promises to protect them? The answer to that question can be seen in the findings of a recent public opinion poll conducted by the American Gallup Institute simultaneously in Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany, and France. These findings show that less and less residents in these three countries believe the claim about a danger from the East. The poll showed for one that in the past 2 years there was a considerable rise in the number of people in these three countries who rejects the possibility of war as a result of conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States. There are 64 percent such people in Britain and 71 percent in the Federal Republic of Germany and France.

But there still remain people who believe that a military conflict is possible and even inevitable. What do they regard as a source of the war danger? An answer is again supplied by a Gallup poll. Pluralities of Britons and West Germans, on whom Washington is imposing involvement in the star wars program, feel that action on the program will push the world to war and away from peace. The attitude of West Europeans is as critical of other American steps that are being taken allegedly to protect the West Europeans. Pluralities in Britain and France and the majority in West Germany reject the siting on the continent of Pershing II and cruise first-strike American nuclear missiles in the absence of an agreement on arms control.

DUTCH GOVERNMENT INFORMS PARLIAMENT OF CRUISE TERMS

LD021522 Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] The Hague, October 2 TASS -- The Netherlands coalition government, made of representatives of Christian Democrats and right-wing Liberals, has sent to Parliament a letter setting forth the terms, agreed upon with the United States, of deploying American Cruise missiles on the country's territory. The deployment decision is to be taken on November 1.

As is clear from the document, the government discarded the opposition's demand that this question, crucial for the country's sovereignty, should be resolved by a majority of two-thirds of the votes which missile deployment supporters do not have in Parliament. The government intends to formalize the deployment accord not as an agreement calling for parliamentary approval, but as a mere exchange of notes. The government gives the United States and the NATO Command complete control over such an important question as the use of missiles. At a press conference in The Hague Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers has said that the Netherlands' right to prevent the launch button from being pressed is "unacceptable" to NATO.

The stand taken by the government is considered here as actual capitulation to the United States, as preparation of the public opinion for decisions to be taken in favour of missile deployment. Chairman of the national "No to Cruise Missile" committee Sinni Strikverda has said that the governmental manoeuvre impels the Dutch people to fight more resolutely against the missile threat. The committee is now directing the campaign of collecting signatures to the call that missile deployment be given up. The appeal has already been signed by more than two million Dutch people.

DELEGATION OF BREAKAWAY SPANISH CP VISITS REPORTED

PM301323 Moscow PRAVADA in Russian 30 Sep 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] A delegation from the Communist Party (Spain) headed by J. Guerra, member of the Central Committee, was in the Soviet Union 23 through 29 September in accordance with the plan for party ties between the CPSU and that party.

The Spanish Communists had meetings and talks at the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Section, the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, and the Tsentrosoyuz. They traveled to the Georgian SSR, were received at the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, and visited several of the republic's agricultural enterprises and scientific institutions.

The delegation familiarized itself with the experience of the CPSU'S work in the sphere of agriculture, with the activity of party organizations in improving the work of all sectors of the agro-industrial complex, and with rural working people's working conditions.

The delegation members made a high assessment of the CPSU's activity aimed at fulfilling the Food Program and improving the entire system of running the agricultural complex and intensifying agriculture.

REACTION, REPORTAGE ON BEIRUT KIDNAPPING

Government Statement

LD021838 Moscow TASS in English 1832 GMT 2 Oct 85

["Statement of the Soviet Government" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 2 TASS -- On September 30, as has been already reported, an extremist Moslem grouping in Beirut took as hostages four officials of Soviet agencies in Lebanon. Those who perpetrated that criminal action made demands concerning armed actions of antagonist Lebanese groupings, to which the Soviet Union has no relation at all.

The Soviet side immediately took every measure to secure the release of the Soviet citizens. The criminals, however, continue forcibly to hold them, and on October 2 one of the Soviet citizens was killed by them.

An atrocity which cannot be pardoned has been perpetrated. It is all the more condemnable since the Soviet Union has always been a friend of the Lebanese and other Arab peoples and a consistent advocate of the preservation of unity, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon, an end to bloodshed in that country and a political settlement of its problems.

The prime cause of internal Lebanese strife, of which Soviet citizens became innocent victims, is Israel, deliberately inciting that strife. And it should bear responsibility for the consequences of its policy.

However, this does not absolve those who were the immediate organizers and perpetrators of the act of atrocity against the Soviet citizens.

Responsibility is also shared by all those who could have stopped the criminal action and prevented violence against the Soviet people but did not do everything possible to this effect. They should not hope that this conduct of theirs would not have a most negative effect on the Soviet Union's attitude to them.

The Soviet Government is strongly demanding the immediate and unconditional release of the Soviet people. Procrastination in this matter, let alone violence against the Soviet citizens, will further aggravate the guilt of all those who have anything to do with this matter.

Zamyatin Paris Statement

LD030845 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2247 GMT 2 Oct 85

["Zamyatin's Statement on Soviet Hostages" -- TANJUG headline]

[Text] Paris, Oct 2 (TANJUG) -- The Soviet Union has taken the necessary steps with a number of Lebanese groupings and the Syrian Government in order to bring about the liberation of the three remaining Soviet hostages in Beirut, head of the Press Department of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Leonid Zamyatin said in Paris this evening.

Speaking at a press conference, Zamyatin affirmed that the Soviet Union would do everything in its power to protect the interests of Soviet citizens in Lebanon.

The spokesman for the Soviet Party Central Committee also stressed the Soviet Union condemns all terrorist acts.

UN Reaction to Death

LD030657 Moscow TASS in English 0605 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] New York, October 3 TASS -- The criminal deed committed in Beirut has been the cause of wrath, indignation and grief at the United Nations Organization. U.N. Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar, a TASS correspondent has been told by his representative, indignantly denounced the killing of one of the Soviet citizens and demanded the immediate release of the other employees of Soviet institutions, who were captured as hostages.

We firmly denounce the seizure of Soviet citizens in Lebanon and the killing of one of them, the TASS correspondent has been told by Bulgaria's Foreign Minister Peter Mladenov. This criminal act is directed against the USSR, the country, which has proved in practice its full support for the rightful cause of the Arab peoples, including the Lebanon people. We insist on the immediate release of the Soviet citizens.

Wrath, indignation and pain have been caused by the news of the criminal deed committed in Beirut which can not be pardoned, said Afghanistan's permanent representative at the United Nations Muhammed Farid Zarif. Behind the back of the gang who perpetrated the criminal act one cannot but see the organizers of that heinous, really brutual crime. We back the demand of the Soviet Government that the Soviet citizens be immediately set free.

The news of the crime committed in Beirut has been a pain in the Arab hearts, said permanent observer of the League of Arab States at the United Nations Clovis Maksoud [TASS spelling]. All who cherish the cause of peace and justice in the Middle East demand the early and unconditional release of the captured citizens, he stressed.

Reagan Denunciation

LD021301 Moscow TASS in English 1151 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] New York, October 2 TASS -- A statement issued here on behalf of Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations Organization, vigorously condemns the action in which four staff members of Soviet institutions were taken hostage in Beirut. The statement points out that the U.N. secretary general denounces the gross violation of the international norms related to the security of the personnel of diplomatic missions, who fulfill their duties, and wants to stress anew the need for concerted international efforts to combat terrorism which has become a wide-spread problem.

U.S. President Reagan has denounced the abduction in Beirut.

Beirut, October 2 TASS -- The life of the Soviet citizens, against whom the act of open terror was perpetrated by members of the ultra-right extremist organization, remains in danger. The efforts to save them go on.

The Lebanese Communist Party, the People's Nasirite Organisation, the Lebanese Arab Socialist Renaissance Party and a number of other parties and organisations filed wrathful protests against the terrorist action in Beirut.

The gangster crime, says the statement by the Lebanese Communist Party, was perpetrated against representatives of the friendly country which has always sided with the Lebanese people, proving support to it in the struggle against the Israeli occupation. The Lebanese Communist Party urges all Lebanese patriotic and democratic forces to raise their voice against this dangerous action. The Lebanese Communists demand that all necessary and most resolute measures be taken to release the captured Soviet citizens and prevent similar provocative actions in the future.

Rescue Attempts Continue

LD022056 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 2 Oct 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin; announcer-read report]

[Text] Attempts continue to save the employees of Soviet institutions who were seized in Beirut as hostages by members of an ultra-right extremist organization. The lives of these Soviet citizens remain in danger. The Lebanese Communist Party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and a number of other organizations have protested angrily against the terrorist action carried out against Soviet people. The Lebanese Communists' statement emphasizes that the bandit-like crime was carried out against a friendly country which had always stood on the side of the Lebanese people, supporting them in the struggle against the Israeli occupiers. The communist party demanded that urgent, decisive measures be taken to free the captured Soviet citizens. In New York, a statement by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar has been published, in which he decisively condemns the seizure of the Soviet people as a scandalous violation of international norms. The kidnapping in Beirut was also condemned by U.S. President Reagan.

Identification of Body

NC021658 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1617 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] A reliable source at the Soviet Embassy in Beirut announced this afternoon that the body of Arkadiy Katakov, the mission's consular secretary [as heard] has been found. Katakov was 32 years old, married, and the father of a baby boy.

There had been earlier, conflicting reports on the identity of the Soviet victim. It was said this afternoon that the body of Valeriy Mirnakov, an employee of the commercial section, had been discovered. The diplomat had been shot in the head, neck, armpit, and back.

AP claimed that the embassy's commercial attache had been murdered, while other reports said it was the doctor. AFP reported this afternoon that the kidnappers had executed another hostage.

The AKHBAR AL-YAWM paper has cited security sources who believe that the Soviet diplomats are now in the hands of a Palestinian organization in Burj al-Barajinah. These sources also claim that this organization has been acting in concert with certain Lebanese factions in West Beirut. They have cooperated in a number of military operations against the Amal Movement and the Syrian Nationalist Party.

Soviet Envoy Hopeful

NC030933 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov discussed the issue of the Soviet hostages and the means to bring about their release. Immediately afterward, President al-Jumayyil presided over an expanded security meeting. It was attended by the Soviet charge d'affaires and the commanders of the security departments. They discussed the same issue.

In a statement at the end of the meeting, Suslikov said: We still have hopes concerning the fate of the three hostages. However, we might get regrettable news about their safety at any moment.

To a question on the Soviet stand in the event the kidnappers insist on their conditions, Suslikov said: We distributed the Soviet Government statement in this regard yesterday: However, we will see what we what we will do if anything happens.

Kuwaiti Meeting

LD031024 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0956 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Oct (KUNA) -- Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin today received the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy who handed him a note from the Soviet Government containing an explanation of the circumstances surrounding the abduction of the four Soviet diplomats in Lenbanon and the murder of one of them.

Under Secretary al-Shahin expressed the Kuwaiti Government's sorrow and indignation at the abduction of the Soviet diplomats and Kuwait's stand at the side of the Soviet Union in combatting terrorism anywhere in the world.

Kidnapping Termed Hostile Action

NC031237 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1205 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov has delivered a message to President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil from the Soviet Government. This is the second message in less than 48 hours. It pertains to the kidnapping of the Soviet diplomats. The message says that Soviet officials are closely following the news about the incident and the fate of the diplomats, and consider what happened as a hostile action against the Soviet Union which they cannot accept.

Diplomats Warned To Leave

NC030555 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] An unidentified person contacted the UNIVERSAL NEWS AGENCY [al-Wakalah al' Alamiyah] in Beirut last night, saying that the remaining Soviet hostages will be released if the attacks on Tripoli stop. He added: However, if these attacks continue, we will execute the hostages.

Another unidentified person contacted other news agencies, saying that the Soviet Embassy will be destroyed on top of its occupants if the employees and intelligence staff do not leave Beirut within 24 hours.

Aeroflot Cancels Flight

NC021122 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1114 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] We were handed this report a short while ago: It comes as part of the Soviet reaction to the kidnapping of the four Soviet diplomats. It appears that this might be the first reaction to the execution of one of the four Soviet diplomats.

According to this report, Soviet Aeroflot company officials informed Beirut International Airport officials at noon that the company's flight to Beirut has been cancelled. They gave no reasons. However, informed sources have linked the decision to cancel the flight to the kidnapping of the four Soviet diplomats.

Terrorist Targets Named

NC021745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, Eastern European embassies and official organizations in West Beirut have learned that hostile action will be taken against Soviet citizens in Lebanon. This may involve the embassy building and the offices of the Soviet airline. The scope of this activity may be broadened to include citizens from the other Eastern European countries.

TASS STATEMENT ON ISRAELI AIR ATTACK ON TUNIS

LD021754 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1720 GMT 2 Oct 85

["TASS statement" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 2 Oct (TASS) -- Here is the full text of a TASS statement:

Israel has committed a fresh act of aggression. On 1 October, Israeli warplanes bombed a suburb of Tunis, the capital of a sovereign Arab state 2,000 kilometers distant from Israel. The strike was carried out against buildings housing Palestinian institutions, which are present by agreement with the Tunisian Government, and against civilian residential houses. There are numerous human fatalities.

With impudent cynicism, Israeli official representatives are now openly advertizing their bloody crime, quite unabashed at what light they appear in before the world. Their claims regarding Israel's "right" to terror are, in their shamelessness, a fitting match for the policy of state terrorism pursued by Israel's patrons, the United States.

Thus the aggression committed by Israel against Tunisia, and its crimes in Tunis as a whole, have once again shown the real worthlessness of the hypocritical statements by the Israeli leaders about their desire for peace in the Near East. What question can there be of peace with Arab neighbors, or of security in the Near East, while Israel countinues to persist in its course of aggression, of terrorizing Arabs, and of taking reprisals against Palestinians fighting for their national rights? That path leads inevitably to a still greater whipping-up of tension in the Near East, and to new cycles of violence.

For all this, Israel must bear the full degree of responsibility. It is the duty of all members of the international community, and of peace-loving forces in all countries, to deal a decisive rebuff to Israel's aggressive actions. In the USSR, the villainous attack on Tunis is being angrily condemned. Soviet people once again express their solidarity and support for the Palestinian and Arab peoples in their just struggle against Israeli aggression and the intrigues of imperialism.

U.S. Defense of Israel

LD022146 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 2 Oct 85

[From the "International Diary" program; commentary by Boris Andrianov]

[Text] The brigand-like attack by the Israeli Air Force on a suburb of the Tunisian capital has aroused angry indignation in wide-ranging circles of the world public. Dispatches coming in from abroad are evidence of this. They have come from India, Canada, Argentina, Sweden, Algeria, the FRG, Iraq, and Austria. The governments of these countries and of many others resolutely condemn the criminal act of state terrorism which has been carried out by Israel.

The United States has also reacted to this unconcealed brigandage, but in its customary manner. Not only has the White House refused to condemn the bandit-like attack by the Israeli Air Force on the PLO headquarters in Tunisia, but it has cynically presented this terrorist raid in which almost 160 totally innocent people were victims -- as a legitimate act of self-defense. This self-revelation amazed even the worldly-wise journalists who are accredited to the White House. They were forced to admit that the United States is for the first time attempting to openly justify a piratical raid by Israeli aggressors against a sovereign state.

Judging by the utterances of the White House spokesman, the Washington administration believes that Israel is quite entitled to resort -- in the future, too-- to such measures of self-defense, if one may say so. It becomes clear from the same statements that the Reagan administration also reserves such a right for the United States. And this right, according to the U.S. President's personal spokesman, extends not only to the Near East, but also to other areas of the world. The conclusion can be drawn from these statements that the United States is once again appearing before the whole world, quite uninhibitedly, not only as the patron and accomplice of international terrorism, but also as its inspirer.

Israel's new act of aggression, as well as the unreserved support which the White House has hastened to express for Tel Aviv, scorning all norms of international legality and morality, has met with sharp criticism from participants in the present session of the UN General Assembly. UN General Secretary Perez de Cuellar, condemned Israel's bandit-like raid as an impermissable violation of the territorial integrity of a member-state of the international community. He stressed that such actions make the search for a peaceful settlement in the Near East even more difficult. One cannot fail to agree with this. For it is quite obvious that the latest act of state terrorism by Israel is directed against the Arab countries, and that Tel Aviv undertook it to frustrate the efforts of the international community which are directed toward a just settlement of the Near Eastern conflict, the core of which is the Palestinian question.

Call For UN Meeting

LD021107 Moscow TASS in English 0956 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] New York, October 2 TASS -- TASS correspondents Sergey Baybakov, Arkadiy Sidoryk and Vyacheslav Chernyshev report:

The Government of Tunisia has requested to call an urgent meeting of the U.N. Security Council to discuss the situation that has formed as a result of the Israeli air raid of the territory of Tunisia. In a letter to the chairman of the Security Council, the permanent representative of Tunisia at the U.N. Najib Bouziri urged the world community to denounce this premeditated act of aggression and to take necessary steps with a view to preventing its recurrence.

Javier Perez de Cuellar, U.N. secretary general, has denounced this action as the impermissible violation of the territorial integrity of a U.N. member state. Jaime de Pines, chairman of the 40th session of the U.N. General Assembly, pointed out that there could be no excuse for Israel's actions.

Arab delegations that gathered at the U N headquarters to attend the session of its general assembly were indignant at the news of Israel's action. At a press conference here the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Syria Faruq al-Shar' described it as another manifestation of gangsterism, as the gross trampling underfoot of all the norms of the international law. Israel's bandit actions show again that durable and just peace can be achieved in the Middle East only on condition of a complete and immediate withdrawal of all the Israeli troops from the occupied territories, of the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to the creation of an independent state, he said. Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs of Algeria, urged the Security Council to fully realise the seriousness of the situation and to use all the necessary sanctions against the aggressor.

The attempts to find pretexts for justifying the criminal action of Tel Aviv cannot be described in any other way but as the encouragement of the agressor to go on with its crimes, said Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of Iraq. The second deputy prime minister, Minister of defense and aviation of Saudi Arabia Prince Sultan Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud stressed the need to introduce all-embracing sanctions against Israel. The permanent observer of the PLO at the U N Zuhdi Labib al-Tarazai pointed out that another act of state terrorism had been staged by Israel with a view to disrupting the efforts of the world community aimed at reaching a just settlement of the Middle East conflict of which the Palestinian problem is the core.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey Vahit Halefoglu, as well as heads of delegations of many other countries attending the session of the General Assembly denounced the bandit air raid of Tel Aviv.

WPC Condemnation

LD021605 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Helsinki, October 2 TASS -- The World Peace Council issued today the following statement:

Stop Israeli state terrorism [no punctuation as received]

The World Peace Council Tunisia strongly condemns the Israeli bombardment of the headquarters of the PLO in Tunis, Tunisia The Israeli rulers were fully aware that no Palestinian resistance units or armaments are stationed in Tunis. Only civilian targets were attacked resulting in the killing of Palestinians and Tunisian civilians.

The World Peace Council notes that President Reagan's statement following the Israeli attack is an expression of support for this act of terrorism and clearly proves U.S. complicity and connivance.

Acts of state terrorism undertaken by Israel and supported by the U.S. Administration is an open threat to world peace and a grave violation of elementary human rights.

The World Peace Council declares that this act of state terrorism against the Palestinian people is at the same time a flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Tunisia.

The main objective is to terrorize the PLO and Arab Governments in order to make them submit to the imperialist plans of the U.S. Administration and the expansionist policy of Israel in the Middle East.

The World Peace Council appeals to all governments to stop all types of political, economic and military cooperation which encourages the Zionist regime to pursue its aggression, terrorist and repressive policies. It calls upon all peace, liberation and democratic forces to condemn this act of state terrorism.

SUDANESE COUP PLOT SERVES WESTERN INTERESTS

LD301742 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 30 Sep 85

[From "The World Today" program presented by Vsevolod Shishkovskiy; announcer-read report]

[Summary] Investigations into the recent coup plot in the Sudan have begun. The plotters intended to wipe out the military and political leadership of the country. Leading political parties have come out against it.

"The independent foreign policy line of the new Sudan Government, it would seem, does not suit certain Western circles. Their particular dissatisfaction is aroused by the resolve of the Sudanese authorities to contribute to the strengthening of solidarity of the Arab states, and to expand mutually advantageous relations with countries of socialism."

'POSITIVE RESPONSE' TO USSR-OMANI TIES DECISION

PM011320 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Oct 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Positive Response"]

[Text] Kuwait, 30 Sep -- The decision to establish diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Sultanate of Oman has generated a broad response among statesmen of the Arab states of the Persian Gulf and in the local press.

Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah noted in an interview in the OMAN newspaper the USSR's efforts to strengthen stability on the Arabian Peninsula and expressed the conviction that Oman's actions would be supported by other Arab states.

Kuwait's AL-WATAN sees this event as a natural desire on the part of both countries to establish and develop bilateral ties. It is undeniable, the newspaper observes, that Soviet policy is directed toward a just settlement of the Near East problem.

GORKIY OBLAST SOVIETS PREPARE FOR 27TH CONGRESS

PM011445 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Sep 85 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report under the rubric "At the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: On the Work of the Gorkiy Oblast Soviets of People's Deputies to Provide a Fitting Greeting to the CPSU Congress"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution adopted on this question noted that the Gorkiy Oblast soviets of people's deputies, under the leadership of the party organs, have launched vigorous organizational and mass political work to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April and July 1985 Plenums for a fitting greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress.

Measures have been developed and are being implemented for the successful completion of the targets for 1985 and the 11th 5-Year Plan as a whole, additional socialist pledges have been adopted, and competition has been launched under the slogan "27 periods of 10 days of shock labor for the 27th CPSU Congress." The Communists and soviet deputies are marching in the vanguard of precongress competition.

In accordance with the party's instructions, the soviets are taking steps to further improve the leadership of economic and sociocultural building and want to display a creative approach toward solving the tasks, to make fuller use of their powers, and to fulfill their obligations.

There has been an increase in the soviets' attention toward the acceleration of the transition of production to an intensive path of development, toward the improvement of output quality, toward the economical expenditure of raw and semifinished materials and energy, and toward the implementation of the Food Program. Control has been stepped up over the work of the responsible organs. Much is being done to implement the voters' mandates.

Questions of improving the standard of political educational and mass cultural work among the population, and implementing the tasks set by the party for strengthening organization and discipline and socialist legality and law and order are an important part of activity by the oblast's soviet.

The party and state program for the eradication of drunkenness and alcoholism has gained the complete support and approval of the oblast's working people. Antialcohol propaganda has increased. Work to enhance the effectiveness of measures of influence on people who get drunk and violate labor discipline and public order is gaining increasing scope.

Purposeful work is under way to eliminate shortcomings noted in the CPSU Central Committee resolution on the progress of the implementation of the reform of the general educational and vocational school in Gorkiy Oblast.

The preparation for the forthcoming party congress is developing in the labor collectives creative activeness, a businesslike atmosphere of quest, the realization of additional reserves, an orientation toward the fulfillment of plan targets and pledges, and a reliable basis for the next 5-year plan.

While noting the positive elements in the work of the Gorkiy Oblast soviets of people's deputies in providing a fitting greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium believes that their activity is a long way from fully meeting the CPSU Central Committee's requirements.

The soviets and ispolkoms are exerting feeble influence on the intensification of the national economy, the modernization and retooling of production, and the consolidation of labor and technological discipline. Many enterprises have failed to achieve rhythmical operation and fulfillment of production plans and one in five has failed to achieve the labor productivity growth targets. Reserves for increasing the production of consumer goods, especially by enterprises of local subordination, are not being fully used. The quality of many goods does not meet the population's requirements.

The soviets of people's deputies are not taking the necessary measures to ensure the stable development of agriculture or to eliminate the lag allowed in the first years of the 5-year plan in procurements of stockraising and arable output. Compared with the 10th 5-year plan, the production of output on citizens' private auxiliary farms has declined.

The state of affairs in capital construction is improving slowly and the limits of state capital investments are not being assimilated.

The state of municipal and consumer services for the population does not comply with modern requirements. Plans for the construction and repair of apartment blocks, medical and children's preschool institutions, trade and public catering enterprises, and other social and consumer services establishments are not being fulfilled. The enterprises and organizations of the ministries of heavy and transport machine building, the petroleum refining and petrochemical industry, and railroads which are situated on the oblast's territory are not adequately resolving these questions. Many soviets of people's deputies are not displaying due persistence in involving enterprises and organizations subordinated to a higher authority to social development on their territory and are not making full use of their powers. Order has not been introduced everywhere in trade and public catering, the operation of transport, and other spheres which serve the population.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has suggested that the Gorkiy Oblast soviets of peoples deputies, guided by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April and July 1985 Plenums, mobilize the working people to the complete fulfillment of the plan targets and socialist pledges of the concluding year of the 11th 5-Year Plan, to a fitting greeting to the 27th Party Congress, and to the creation of a firm basis for a successful start to the 12th 5-Year Plan.

Steps must be taken to eliminate shortcomings in the leadership of economic and sociocultural building. More effective use must be made of the precongress socialist competition which is intended to create in every labor collective an atmosphere of high discipline and organization. The widespread dissemination of the experience of production innovators and of useful initiatives must be ensured. Every aid must be given to the initiative of the collectives of associations and enterprises pledging to exceed the control targets set for their plans. Scientific-technical achievements, operating production reserves and improving the quality of all work should be introduced. Inspection of economic leaders who fail to ensure proper order in production, observance of thrift, the reduction of lost work time, and the fulfillment of plans and socialist pledges should be increased.

The Gorkiy Oblast oblispolkom, gorispolkoms and rayispolkoms, and settlement soviet ispolkoms have been told of the need to elaborate and implement specific measures to increase the production and improve the quality of consumer goods by all industrial enterprises, irrespective of their departmental subordination, and to make broader use of local raw material and production waste.

Work must be performed to fulfill the Food Program, to increase agricultural output sales, and to ensure its safekeeping. It is necessary to improve the population's provision with foodstuffs by using local potential and developing the auxiliary farms of enterprises and organizations, citizens' private farms, and collective horticulture and vegetable growing. More attention to the social restructuring of the countryside and suitable working, daily living, and leisure conditions for rural workers must be paid.

It is necessary to fulfill the plans for housing, cultural and consumer, and municipal institutions, and subordinate organizations in social development on the territory of corresponding soviets. Effective steps must be taken to improve the work of subordinate enterprises and the state of affairs in trade, public catering, and consumer services. Work on energy establishments, the stock of available housing, municipal services, and reliable passenger transport for the fall and winter period and to ensure the population's uninterrupted fuel supplies must be controlled.

Constant improvement of educational work in the labor collectives and at places of residence is being established. Direction toward increased labor and social activity and creation of an atmosphere of implacability toward any antisocial manifestations and violation of the principles of social justice is improving. The organization of the population's leisure and better use of cultural and enlightenment institutions and sports installations, irrespective of their departmental subordination, must be made. Vigorous implementation of the party's course toward socialist legality and law and order and the overcoming of drunkenness and alcoholism must be made.

There must be a deeper investigation of the general educational and vocational school reform and the national educational institutions' daily work. More attention must be paid to continued development of preschool institutions, students' instruction, education, and vocational guidance, and their preparation for socially useful labor. Specific measures must be taken to improve the housing and consumer conditions of teachers and other national education workers.

Emphasis on consistent development of democratic principles in the soviets' activity, improvement of the preparation of sessions and sittings of ispolkoms and standing commissions, and elimination of ostentation and session mania is necessary. Broad publicity must be ensured and the population must be kept regularly informed of the fulfillment of plans for economic and social development and the fulfillment of voters' mandates.

Ensuring that every deputy is an example of a highly aware attitude toward labor, a model of discipline and organization, and a leading production worker is necessary.

The union and autonomous republic supreme soviet presidiums and local soviets of people's deputies should be guided by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April and July 1985 Plenums. Further improving organizational and educational work, solving questions of the intensification of production, the acceleration of scientific-technical progress, satisfying the population's growing demands for goods and services, consolidating discipline and order, activating the masses' implementation of the tasks set by the party, and a fitting greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress should be ensured.

The editorial offices of the newspaper IZVESTIYA SOVETOV NARODNYKH DEPUTATOV SSSR and the journal SOVETY NARODNYKH DEPUTATOV have been instructed to cover in full the progress of socialist competition in honor of the 27th party congress and the participation of deputies and to propagandize the best experience of the soviets of people's deputies in mobilizing working people to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April and July 1985 Plenums and their pledges for this year and the 5-year plan as a whole.

DECISION ON WORKERS' 'EXTRAMURAL' DISCUSSION

LD021255 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has considered the proposals of the working people expressed during the all-union extramural workers' discussion on questions of economy, savings, and the strengthening of discipline and order in production. This discussion was organized in the pages of TRUD newspaper. It aroused great interest and a lively response in factories, production associations, and kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

In the decision adopted by the CPSU Central Committee, it is noted that the broad businesslike discussion by the working people of the most urgent problems is considered by the CPSU Central Committee to be convincing proof of the ideological maturity and high level of political consciousness of the working class and of its active support for the course of the April 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The statements and proposals of workers, engineers, specialists in the national economy and party and trade union activists show that work on speeding up socioeconomic development covers ever broader masses and is becoming a movement of all the people.

As stated in the decision, the all-union extramural working conference is an effective form for practical implementation of the democratic norms of Soviet people's power, raises the prestige of the press and its organizational role, and facilities the mobilization of the working people to make use of the achievements of science and progressive experience, finding production reserves, and an uncompromising struggle against shortcomings. The letters to the paper express concern that certain ministries, departments, and enterprises are slow in reorganizing work in the matter of speeding up scientific and technical progress.

The CPSU Central Committee calls on the central committees of the communist parties of the union republics, kraykoms and obkoms, the AUCCTU, USSR Gosplan, USSR Gossnam, USSR State Committee for Labor, USSR ministry of the Chemical Industry, and other ministries and departments to consider without exception all the proposals and critical comments from the participants in the all-union extramural workers' conference and to report to the CPSU Central Committee on the results achieved by 1 February 1986.

The decision of the CPSU Central Committee is published in full in the central press.

COLD, WET FALL HAMPERS LATE HARVESTING

PM261601 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 26 Sep 85 p 1

[N. Osychkin "Agricultural Review": "The Fall Examination"]

[Excerpts] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported that by 23 September grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) on kolkhozes and sovkhozes had been harvested on 103.6 million hectares and threshed on 99.9 million hectares -- 90 percent of the crops. Over the week grain has been harvested on almost 10 million hectares. The dispatching of grain against state plans and pledges is continuing.

We are into the last 10 days of September. They have turned out to be unfriendly for crop farms in many parts of the country. There are more and more storm clouds in the skies, there is a cold drizzle in either one place or another, and there are even frosts at night. And an even larger volume of work has to be carried out in the fields. The interests of the present and future harvests require that working people in the agro-industrial complex double and redouble their efforts to rapidly complete the harvest, fulfill the plans for the procurement of grain and other produce, and successfully carry out winter crop sowing and the turning of fall plowland.

Fall is posing a serious test for the crop farmers of eastern regions, where one-third of the crops remain to be harvested. The machine operators of Altay cannot afford to waste a single fine day. Grain here has already been threshed on 250,000 hectares. Each day adds 200,000 hectares.

A notable increase in the area harvested at the concluding stage of the harvest has been achieved by the farms of Novosibirsk and Omsk Oblasts. In all, grain has been reaped on 60.7 million hectares in the RSFSR and threshed on 58.3 million hectares, which amounts to more than 88 percent of the crops [figures as published]. A great deal of grain remains unharvested in the North-West, Central, East Siberia, and West Siberia economic regions. One-half of the harvest remains to be threshed in Chita oblasts. The weather is not favoring the harvest everywhere. This obliges the leaders of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, local agro-industrial enterprises, and party organizations to mobilize the efforts of agro-industrial complex collectives to overcome difficulties, make productive use of each fall hour, and ensure that targets are fulfilled by all machine operators. It is a question of literally "digging up" the harvest before the bad weather, gathering it in from the entire harvested area, and saving everything that has been cultivated from losses.

Grain is being harvested and shipped round the clock in Kazakhstan with a view to accelerating work. Threshing in the republic is being conducted on 22 million hectares -- 89 percent of the crop. Considerable increases in the area harvested per week have been achieved by Kustanay and Kokchetav farms. Great attention is now being devoted to organizing work at threshing floors and delivering grain to elevators.

Intensity is mounting in row crop fields. Grain corn has been harvested on 1.2 million hectares. This work is being completed in Central Asia. Harvest work in the Ukraine is in full swing.

The pace of the sunflower seed harvest continues to increase only slowly. Some 1.4 million hectares of flowers have been threshed; that is a little over one-third of the crop. Only 17 percent of the sunflowers have been harvested in Belgorod Oblast while in Tambov Oblast the figure is 9 percent, in Rostov Oblast 6 percent, and in Volgograd and Kuybyshev Oblasts just 1 percent.

The time for large-scale harvesting has arrived in the sugar beet plantations. Some 912,000 hectares of roots have been lifted. That is 27 percent of the sown area. Some 300 processing enterprises are in operation and have refined around 1 million metric tons of sugar. The wet weather is slowing work down in places, but there can be no relying on an Indian summer. Ways must be found in the conditions that have emerged to accelerate the harvest and, in particular, the transport of roots from the field to the refineries and reception centers. An appreciable backlog has been observed with the digging and shipment of sugar beet in Voronezh, Orel, Kursk, and Gorkiy Oblasts and the Bashkir ASSR. Leaders of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and local agro-industrial bodies are called on to eliminate the shortcomings of the early days of the harvest and to ensure that the schedules for digging and transporting roots are observed and the plans for sugar beet sales and sugar production fulfilled.

The cotton harvest is in full swing in the Central Asian republics and Azerbaijan. Procurement centers have already received over 2.2 million metric tons of raw cottons, which is much more than at this time last year. Farms must set the cotton harvesting machines to work more quickly, speed up the white harvest, and increase the production of top-grade fiber. One-fifth of the long-stem flax crop has still to be lifted. There is much still standing in Kaluga and Kostroma Oblasts.

Some 1.8 million hectares of potatoes have been lifted. That is 60 percent of the planned area. Some 653,000 hectares or 56 percent of the vegetable crop has been harvested. Truck farm workers are expected to counter the difficulties by good organization and skillful work and to strive to gather a full crop, to improve the quality of potatoes and vegetables, and to fulfill the plans for the supply of produce to cities and industrial centers.

Crop farmers are laying the foundation for the next harvest. Some 28.6 million hectares or over 70 percent of the plan for winter crops have been sown. Sowing has begun on a massive scale in the North Caucasus, the southern Ukraine, and the lower Volga Region. Almost 11 million hectares have been sown using intensive techniques. Some 44.4 million hectares or 41 percent of the planned figure of fall plowing has been done. While accelerating this work, it is important to take care to apply fertilizers to the plowed land, particularly to fields assigned to sugar beet.

Fall is a major test for crop farmers. Passing that test will mean making a fitting contribution to implementing the Food Program targets.

CSA Harvest Report

PM261155 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Sep 85 Morning Edition p 1

[O. Pavlov agricultural review: "In the Fall Field"]

[Excerpts] According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, by 23 September grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) have been cut on 103.6 million hectares in the country and threshed on 99.9 million hectares, or 96 percent of the area cut. Rice has been threshed on 160,000 hectares. Sunflowers have been harvested on 1.4 million hectares, or 36 percent; sugar beets on 912,000 hectares, 27 percent. Potatoes have been lifted on 1.7 million hectares, or 60 percent. Vegetables have been harvested on 653,000 hectares or 56 percent. Winter crops have been sown on 28.6 million hectares or 71 percent, and fall plowing has been carried out on 44.4 million hectares, or 41 percent.

Some 73.1 million metric tons of hay, or 94 percent, 74 million metric tons of haylage, 185.3 million metric tons of silage, 79.1 million metric tons of straw, and 6.4 million metric tons of grass meal have been procured.

Recently our attention has been directed to grain fields. Clearly, grain is the most important thing, and it is the farmers' chief concern. This year there has been good reason to worry about it in a number of parts of the country. Grain crops have been ripening later than usual, and frosts have threatened. At the start of the harvest, farms in many parts of the Urals and Siberia were unable to work up the necessary pace; they were hindered by rain. The utmost mobilization was required, and then, when the weather gladdened grain growers in the east, this mobilization affected the pace and quality of work. In the past 2 weeks they have been high almost everywhere.

After being delayed at the start, Altay Kray farmers have put on a real spurt: During the week they threshed grain crops on 1.3 million hectares, or one-third of the total area. On 24 September they finished threshing on 3 million hectares (in all, there are grain crops on 4.1 million hectares in the kray).

Grain crops have been cut on 90 percent of all areas. In order to complete harvesting more quickly, operational maneuvering with equipment is being carried out: From regions where harvesting is over, 1,700 combines with the best drivers have set out to help farms which need assistance. Elevators and grain-reception centers are working round the clock. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are dispatching high-quality grain; chiefly this is spring wheat, of which a significant proportion is strong and durum wheat.

These figures appear in the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration summary; threshing of 100 percent of grain and pulse crops has been completed in Orenburg Oblast and the Bashkir ASSR. Moreover, the Bashkir ASSR has fulfilled its socialist pledges by selling 2.8 million metric tons of grain to the state.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in North Kazakhstan are completing the harvest in the republic. Many drivers are seeking to substantially overfulfill the shift norms.

Unfortunately, the pace of harvesting in East Siberia continues to give cause for anxiety. Less than half the grain crops have been threshed there so far. True, the weather is cold and windy. Under these conditions Krasnoyarsk Kray farms have been able to improve their positions appreciably. But they, too, must still thresh more than 40 percent of the grain crops before the cold weather sets in. The volume of work is even greater in Irkutsk and Chita Oblasts.

Grain corn is being harvested more quickly than last year in the RSFSR. This has been achieved chiefly thanks to North Caucasus farms.

Sugar beet harvesting is still proceeding more slowly than a year ago. This, too, has been caused by the peculiarities of the weather and the late ripening of the roots. Moreover, beet harvesting is a complex matter, and it is dangerous to "run ahead." It is possible to lift the roots quickly but be short on sugar. However, there must not be excessive delays, either.

Unfortunately, potatoes are also being harvested slowly in a number of regions. It is pointless to leave this crop to lie in the ground. It is necessary to improve work organization even on farms in such major suppliers of the "second grain" as Bryansk (where just 31 percent of the area has been harvested), Kalinin (55 percent), and Ryazan (52 percent) Oblasts. For there have already been early frosts in some places.

Mid-September Crop Report

PM250907 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Sep 85 p 1

[USSR Hydrometeorological Center report by agrometeorologist L. Litvinenko: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] Cool weather persisted over most of the USSR's European territory in the second 10-day period of September. Air and ground frosts were recorded in places in the North and North-West Regions and the north of the Central Region. It was warm in the Urals Region. The daytime temperature there reached 25-30 degrees; however, it grew cooler at the end of the 10-day period.

Precipitation occurred almost everywhere. Under 10mm occurred in the southern regions of the Ukraine, the northeast Volga Region, the east Volga-Vyatka Region, and the Ural Region.

The arable stratum of soil in the Baltic, Belorussia, and North, North-West; Central, and Volga-Vyatka regions maintained 35-45mm of productive moisture. Winter crops sown there prior to 25 August have put out side shoots. Rain over the remaining regions of the country's European territory augmented the reserves of productive moisture in the soil, which promoted the appearance and development of shoots on winter crops.

Warm weather was recorded in the Transcaucasian republics at the beginning of the 10-day period. It then cooled. In Azerbaijan the average number of bolls per cotton plant as of 20 September was 14; 11 had already opened, and 9 were ripe.

In Kazakhstan and in Omsk and Tyumen Oblasts the daytime air temperature reached 26-30 degrees, ranging in the remaining regions between 20 and 25 degrees. However, a great part of the territory of West Siberia and northeast Kazakhstan recorded nighttime air and ground frosts. The warm, dry weather was favorable for havesting agricultural crops. Winter crops sown in West Siberia in August have put out side shoots. Cold weather prevailed in the arable regions of East Siberia.

The Central Asia republics were dry and warm for most of the 10-day period. The growth of new cotton bolls virtually ceased as large-scale defoliation work proceeded. As of 20 September most oblasts had 10-11 bolls per plant, with 15-17 bolls in Ashkhabad, Surkhan-Darya, and Kurgan-Tyube Oblasts. They are opening up a little earlier than usual.

The Far East was cool. The average air temperature in the 10-day period over most of the territory was 1-3 degrees colder than usual. Frost was recorded almost everywhere. Most regions had 20-60mm of precipitation.

'LACK OF DISCIPLINE' HAMPERS GRAIN PROCUREMENT

LD281125 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Sep 85

[Commentary by news commentator Sermen Astakhov]

[Text] The harvest is drawing to a close. During these busy fall days the grain farmers are concerning themselves with conserving all the grain that has been gathered and fulfilling the first precept, the state plan. Grain reception enterprises are functioning around the clock in the Kazakh virgin land, Siberia, and the Urals. For instance, in Irtyshskiy Rayon, the largest in Pavlodar Oblast, almost all farms are delivering grain to elevators in an organized fashion.

Only the Suvorov Sovkhoz is lagging. The farm has threshed almost 25,000 tons of grain.

Just think, comrades, this quantity of grain is produced by certain non-Chernozem oblasts. So the sovkhoz has a lot of grain, but less than half the plan has been delivered to the elevators. The low-capacity threshing-floor is not coping, transportation facilities are functioning badly.

This is one sovkhoz. Let us take a whole oblast, Kemerovo: Ninety percent of threshed grain has collected on its threshing floors, but the plan for grain procurement has been fulfilled by less than one-third. There is grain, and a lot of it, over 1 million tons, in Perm Oblast. Grain is lying on the threshing floors and arriving at elevators very slowly. Nor is there any hurry in Perm Oblast with the delivery of leguminous crops to procurement centers.

In the south of the country the corn harvesting has begun. Its flow to state storehouses is growing, but not everywhere. For instance in Zaporozhye Oblast over 100,000 tons has been threshed, and all this grain is lying on the threshing floors.

Even more has been threshed in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, but one can say that the procurement of corn has not even begun.

I have cited several instances of improper regard for grain procurement. They provide evidence of a lack of discipline among certain managers. But the general mass of kolkhoz chairmen and sovkhoz directors understand the importance of this task and play an active part in replenishing the state's resources. Grain procurement has been particularly efficiently organized this year in Azerbaijan, Belorussia, the Soviet Baltic republics, the Tatar ASSR, the Bashkir ASSR, and many oblasts of the autonomous republics of the RSFSR non-Chernozem Zone.

CROP STERILIZERS INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

LD272232 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0507 GMT 27 Sep 85

[Text] Moscow, 27 Sep (TASS) -- New highly efficient fumigators have been developed for the USSR Quarantine Inspection Service. They are special chemicals to sterilize crops and other goods and to destroy harmful insects, journalists were told at the USSR Ministery of Agriculture.

These chemicals cost less than their predecessors and the amount required per unit of weight of freight is reduced by 50-50 percent. No other chemicals in the world are so economical and efficient. The carbon dioxide included in one of the new mixtures activates the breathing of the pests, so that they are killed off more rapidly even by only a small dose of poison. This has reduced the time ships must spend in port for quarantine treatment, and more important, has reduced the percentage content of bromides in the produce, which is strictly controlled by health regulations.

Insect pests can also be destroyed without the use of fumigators, by altering the composition of the air in sealed rooms. Soviet specialists have created an apparatus to produce carbon dioxide from exhaust gases. For the first time such units can be installed in ships. They enable a constant gas microclimate to be maintained in the holds so that the transported produce is reliably protected.

Specialists have also developed a range of equipment to disinfect containers without opening them. A mobile fumigation plant is mounted on a truck. The gas goes from a compressor on the truck through hoses into special portable sealed chambers which can take two containers each. The use of chemical absorbants totally eliminates any escape of the chemicals into the atmosphere.

DER SPIEGEL INTERVIEWS SOVIET ARMY DESERTER

DW111245 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 9 Sep 85 pp 161-166

[Interview with Soviet Army deserter "Alexsandr L." in his hideout in the West; interviewer not identified, date and place not given]

[Text] Soviet draftee Aleksandr L. (his name is known to DER SPIEGEL), age 22, stationed in Poland since 1981, deserted his unit following a quarrel with officers. Despite martial law he was able with the help of the banned "Solidarity" trade union to go underground in Poland for more than 3 years. Recently he was smuggled out to the West.

SPIEGEL: Aleksandar, what are you afraid of? We are not allowed to state your real family name nor the city where you live. You allow photos of yourself taken only with your face covered. What actually could happen to you here in the West?

Aleksandr: I know the rules of the game. Anybody who has dared to desert from the Soviet Army is to be executed. No stone is left unturned in catching him, and no regard is shown for borders.

SPIEGEL: Why did you desert?

Aleksandr: I was fed up.

SPIEGEL: What was it that you were fed up with?

Aleksandr: The whole thing, conditions.

SPIEGEL: Were you so bad off in the Soviet Union?

Aleksandr: Strictly speaking, no. I was living in Voronezh, a city south of Moscow. I was even better off than the majority of young people because my father did well as a highly qualified metal welder. My mother worked, too, I do not have any brothers or sisters, so we were not at all bad off under Soviet conditions.

SPIEGEL: Were you against the political system?

Aleksandr: Not even that -- in any case not at the time in Voronezh. I was a member of the Komsomol, the Communist Youth League, and of DOSAAF (Voluntary Association for Cooperation with the Army, Air Force, and Navy, a Soviet pre-military training organization). We all regarded it as a formality. When a meeting was held one attended it and waited until the set exercise was over. It was nothing but awful boredom. One had to put up with it if one wanted to advance.

SPIEGEL: And how far did you advance?

Aleksandr: After 10 years of school I worked as a locksmith at the metal works in Voronezh. I attended evening courses at DOSAAF to get my driver's license there and then I got a job as a truck driver.

SPIEGEL: And otherwise? Were there no doubts, no questions?

Aleksandr: They existed. For instance, I asked myself why my father, who after all was in the highest wage group for welders, had to let himself be hired for 3 years to work in Mongolia, so as to save the money needed for a small car. The theater showed American movies in which workers drove around in giant cars and lived in apartments that were comfortably furnished, apartments about which we can only dream.

SPIEGEL: The movies do not always show reality.

Aleksandr: But jeans are worn by even the poorest boy in the street. In Voronezh they cost 600 rubles, if you can get them at all on the black market. My father does not earn that much money in 3 months. And then there were the coffins from Afghanistan. That caused some whispering....

SPIEGEL: The fallen.

Aleksandr: With wounds, which, on ordinary soldiers, could be seen in the front part of the body and, as people said, on officers, often in the back or in the back of the head. One really had to ask oneself what kind of a defensive war it is.

SPIEGEL: According to the propaganda it is an attack by the Americans.

Aleksandr: ... in which there is cause for our soldiers to fire at their own officers?

SPIEGEL: Has that been discussed?

Aleksandr: Never. You actually never know whether your close friend is not an informant. We did not even discuss it later on in Tambov although we were already really scared.

SPIEGEL: What happened in Tambov?

Aleksandr: That was the assembly point when I was inducted into military service in April 1981, at the age of 18. We sat around there for a couple of weeks in our tattered civilian clothes -- everybody of course had sold his better clothes so as to stock up on vodka. There were no exercises and nobody know how things would go. Then, one day, we got our military uniforms and we knew that we would go abroad, because the boots and belts you get for normal military service are made of goatskin, whereas ours were of genuine cowhide. It could only mean a mission outside the Soviet Union. Then we became frightened. If we went abroad, we thought, it might be Afghanistan.

SPIEGEL: However, you went to Poland.

Aleksandr: We learned that only on the plane. It was a civilian high capacity Aeroflot plane, with cabins separated by a number of partitions so that nobody could know our total number. Shortly after the start three officers appeared, a first lieutenant and two second lieutenants. They told us that we would have to go do a tour of duty in the People's Republic of Poland. That was all they said, nothing more. Because the officers were wearing Air Force uniforms we assumed that we would be dispatched to an Air Force unit. Roughly 3 hours later we landed in Kluczewo, at a large Soviet military airport. Together with five other comrades, I was sent to Torun and assigned as a private in a guard company.

SPIEGEL: What was your company supposed to watch in Torun?

Aleksandr: Some 500 meters from the city limits was a great ordnance depot, consisting mainly of conventional bombs and missiles. The depot belonged to the 4th Aviation Army of the Northern Army Group. It was a labyrinth of barracks and tunnels. We were armed and we had to guard the camp.

SPIEGEL: When did you learn to shoot?

Aleksandr: In Voronezh, in school. Marksmanship was a compulsory subject. Then, in Torun, we were shown how to take a submachine gun apart and how to put it together. Service was not an easy matter. Night alerts were frequent, and then we had to run 3 km in full combat equipment. My bad lung could not take it for long, so I was sent to an engineer battalion that specialized in construction work at military airfields. There, in Olawa near Wroclaw I worked in tailor and shoemaking shops.

SPIEGEL: Did you also meet Poles?

Aleksandr: On the very first day we were informed by the counterintelligence department about secrecy regulations. Among other things, we were not permitted to tell in our letters we wrote home that we were stationed in Poland. Portable radios and cameras were forbidden to us. There were only loudspeakers broadcasting domestic programs.

There was also talk of security measures, such as a strict ban on smoking in the camp area. It was said that one single spark would suffice to blow all of Torun up. People smoked anyway.

SPIEGEL: What did you know about Poland and the situation in the country?

Aleksandr: First only what we were told in political instruction. Those were usually not lectures, but the political officer or one commissioned by him, read to us from KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, PRAVDA, or KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA. Something about socialism being endangered in Poland, and that Solidarity, an organization infiltrated by the U.S. intelligence service, was preparing to overthrow Poland and make it an anti-Soviet bastion of imperialism. We were also shown pictures of Walesa meeting CIA bosses. We were permanently fed such nonsense.

SPIEGEL: Did you and your comrades consider it nonsense at the time?

Aleksandr: Not exactly at the beginning. However, we did not think about it very much, we just goofed off as soldiers usually do. Well, we were somewhat angry at the Poles because of the strike. Due to the night alerts it was often said that the unrest caused by strikes in the coastal cities was becoming dangerous so that we must undergo alert training. We did not understand what that had to do with us, because we were far from the coast, but we were upset with the Polish troublemakers because they did not let us sleep. The right thoughts came later, when we met the first Poles.

SPIEGEL: How could you establish contact with the people?

Aleksandr: By doing business. We were fed rather badly, primarily potatoes, pea soup and various fats. The daily meat rations as well as the butter, which we were entitled to get -- meat actually was scarce in Poland at the time -- were bartered away by the officers to Polish black marketeers. However, what the Russian officer knows to do, the Russian soldier does too. We did the same.

SPIEGEL: What actually was it that the soldiers did?

Aleksandr: We were supplied with enough cigarettes -- we got 18 packages each month, whereas one sometimes could not buy any at all at Polish kiosks. So the Poles were even satisfied with our Russian cigarettes.

A similar situation prevailed with sugar and candy. We were able to buy any quantity of them, for Z30 per kilogram. There was no sugar or candy in Polish shops, so that one easily could get triple the price. With these sweets alone, a profit of up to Z10,000 could be made each month.

SPIEGEL: What was your army pay?

Aleksandr: Some Z140 a month, and we had to buy shoe polish and soap for that too -- simply ridiculous. However, we had other goods too, for instance military boots. If you could get a pair from the depot, Polish peasants were happy to buy them. Gasoline. The Poles had many cars, but no fuel. Some of us got carried away.

SPIEGEL: Why?

Aleksandr: Out of greediness and also because they did not care. So it happened more than once that during alert training, some vehicles could not be started because there was not a drop of gasoline left in the tank.

SPIEGEL: This was probably investigated....

Aleksandr: Over and over again, as outlined in the instructions. Sometimes with negative results. One soldier was sentenced to 8 years because he had sold his bayonet for Z20,000. However, most of the thefts were hushed up. In the Army it is as in civilian life: One hand washes the other. How can you blame a driver if someone else has pumped his gasoline tank empty?

SPIEGEL: The military police believed such foul excuses?

Aleksandr: We learned the trick of the nonexistent culprit from our officers. They told us repeatedly of gangs of kulaks in the woods who had their people in Solidarity, and of horrible attacks of Polish counterrevolutionaries on our comrades. The cruelly killed comrades always belonged to another unit, which was always stationed somewhere else.

SPIEGEL: Did you find out that they were lies?

Aleksandr: We found out very soon. We saw a beautiful country with many great cars on the streets, well dressed people, many beautiful houses, real farms that did not belong to a kolkoz, but to the farmers themselves. We thought that these people had to be completely loony to risk such a great life, which could not compare with ours, through counterrevolution.

SPIEGEL: The Poles would not be so well off if they were forced to buy sugar and cigarettes from Soviet thieves?

Aleksandr: At first I thought that, too. Later I learned that many acute supply difficulties were intentionally created by the government to hold striking workers and Solidarity responsible for it.

SPIEGEL: Did you learn that from Solidarity?

Aleksandr: Yes, I saw Solidarity people often when I got an official travel order to go to Wroclaw to get a laundry shipment. I passed the gate of a striking plant with my truck.

The picketers looked at me quietly without saying anything nasty. They knew that the plain soldier, Russian or Polish, had nothing to say. It just took time until I realized what a trade union could and should be like.

SPIEGEL: Did your Russian comrades realize it, too?

Aleksandr: I do not know. We discussed deals and business among ourselves, but not politics. The same good friend with whom you might make an illegal deal today, and empty a bottle with later on, might report you to the counterintelligence people to score some points for himself.

SPIEGEL: You kept your mouth shut.

Aleksandr: It became more and more difficult for me to control myself. One day a totally drunk officer ordered me to clean the toilet with my toothbrush. I responded with an obscene Russian curse. For that I was sent to the delinquent company for 1 month.

SPIEGEL: What was your punishment like?

Aleksandr: I had to undergo so-called educational work and take part in educational talks. The work consisted of carrying lots of heavy stones from one place to the other and back again.

SPIEGEL: What are educational talks?

Aleksandr: I got them twice a day in a dark room without windows. I got a terrible beating -- both educators, both of the second lieutenants, were real experts. Every lesson ended with the words "So that you will know how to talk to an officer."

Eventually they had to bring me to the hospital with a swollen stomach and internal injuries. When I returned to my unit, I decided to desert.

SPIEGEL: How was that to be done?

Aleksandr: One day, it was in November 1981, I complained about heart trouble and demanded to be brought to our Army hospital in Brzeg. The doctor there reported me sick for 1 day. I used that day to flee. I slept in a hideout until dark. Then I packed my rucksack, coat, a second pair of socks and stole a chopping knife from the kitchen to be able to cut some wood for a fire or to dig potatoes from the ground.

Then I started out -- over the wall of the barracks and toward the East. When I was under way, I filled my rucksack with corn, got some drinking water from a state farm, and found a warm place to hide in a cow barn. There I hid for 3 days in the hay. Then I took a very old bicycle in the village -- it stemmed from German times -- and started toward Wroclaw.

SPIEGEL: Why there?

Aleksandr: I knew that there was a Solidarity organization in Wroclaw, and I told myself that they are workers like me and they will help me somehow.

SPIEGEL: Rather careless.

Aleksandr: Indeed, particularly in my Soviet uniform -- I had just removed my shoulder straps and the unit insignia -- and without any knowledge of Polish. I had to stop pedestrians to ask for the way to a Solidarity office.

SPIEGEI: In Russian?

Aleksandr: Yes. All were very friendly and gave me the information willingly. When I arrived, the office was already closed. The next morning I was in the trade union office shortly after 0800. I was immediately shocked, because in the hallway stood a Polish Army major in full uniform with a Solidarity badge on his breast. I did not understand that, but I had learned to keep away from officers, regardless of what badges they had. With a jump I disappeared behind the toilet door.

After a few minutes, a young man came in, asking me in Polish who I was and what I was doing here. I told him the truth.

SPIEGEL: Did you not think that the Solidarity people could consider you a provocateur?

Aleksandr: That is exactly what happened. I was brought to a higher trade union functionary who spoke fluent Russian. When I told him the story of my flight, he told me clearly that prior to a decision on my fate, it must be found out whether or not it was a provocation.

These were tough guys. They were mistrusting, but humane. I got civilian clothes, something warm to eat, and a bed -- every night in another apartment. They also got Russian books for me to read, among them the Bible. After 3-4 weeks, I was told that the investigation of my case had been concluded. Now I was supposed to go to Warsaw.

SPIEGEL: Was an explanation given for it?

Aleksandr: All Soviet units stationed near Olawa had been alerted; they were looking for me in the woods, even with helicopters. "Wanted" circulars were also distributed, but only to state security functionaries, not to plain policemen.

So I got to Warsaw by train. I had a Solidarity badge attached to my coat. My Wroclaw friends told me that it was supposed to protect me from police controls on the way. They were right. Such were the times then in Poland.

SPIEGEL: What did you plan for the future?

Aleksandr: Upon arrival in the capital, I went to the Swedish Embassy, following the advice of my protectors. However, there was nobody there who spoke Russian. I was told to return with an interpreter. It took 3 days to find one, and then it was 13 December and martial law. There was no possibility of getting to the Swedish Embassy anymore -- it was surrounded by police.

The young woman where I lived was arrested. Her parents brought me to another apartment. From there on, my contacts with Solidarity were interrupted for about 4 months. Yet, there were numerous people willing to run the risk of giving shelter to a Soviet Army deserter. Then contact was reestablished. Now it was the Solidarity underground organization that took care of me for 3 years.

SPIEGEL: How was it living underground for such a long time?

Aleksandr: It was not so bad. I changed apartments more than 30 times. My Polish friends did everything imaginable to make life easier for me. They found me a job with a watchmaker, a gardener, and a farmer. If you work, you are not constantly afraid, even if you have to watch out all the time. My protectors even organized real vacations for me twice, first at the Masuria Lakes and then in the Tatra Mountains. On my return from there, I got into a fix at the railroad station in Nowy Sacz, because a policeman wanted to see my documents.

I could not show the faked Polish identification card there because it said that I lived in Silesia. My Russian accent did not fit into that area. So I answered the policeman in Russian, handing him my driver's license from Voronezh. That was the only Soviet document I had kept. However, the policeman wanted to see my passport. I said that I had deposited it at the embassy in Warsaw. Eventually, he let me get on the train.

SPIEGEL: How did you get to the West?

Aleksandr: I do not want to say that in order not to endanger the people who have helped me.

SPIEGEL: Were you most afraid on that occasion?

Aleksandr: It was most difficult to stand the fear that caused me to flee from the Soviet Army and thus from the Soviet Union. This is the reason why I have not regretted this decision for a moment.

DEFENSE MINISTER ORDERS FALL DISCHARGE, DRAFT

PM271157 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Sep 85 First Edition p 1

[USSR Defense Minister's Order of the Day No 236, dated Moscow, 27 September 1985]

[Text] On the discharge from the ranks of the USSR Armed Forces to the reserves of military servicemen who have performed the set period of active military service and on the next draft of citizens for active military service in October-December 1985.

In accordance with the USSR Law "On Compulsory Military Service," I ORDER [uppercase words printed in boldface]:

1. That fixed-term servicemen who have performed the set period of active military service be discharged from the ranks of the Soviet Army, Navy, and border and internal forces to the reserve between October and December 1985.

2. In connection with the discharge to the reserve of servicemen indicated in Item 1 of this order, that male citizens aged 18 on draft day not entitled to a deferment of the draft for active military service and citizens above draft age who have forfeited the entitlement to draft deferment be called up for active military service in the Soviet Army, Navy, and border and internal forces between October and December 1985.

3. That this order be published in all companies, batteries, squadrons, and on ships.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR defense minister